

## Massachusetts marriage update

New polls show Bay State residents warming to the idea of gay unions.

page 18

## AIDS as television fare

Two upcoming dramas on cable TV stir mixed feelings from PWAs.

page 17

## Texas kids on camera

'Freshman Diaries' debuts on Showtime.

see Arts section

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Syphilis on the decline

by Matthew S. Bajko

For the first time in four years, data suggests an outbreak of syphilis among San Francisco's gay men is on the decline. Since 1999, health officials have been alarmed at a spike in the sexually transmitted disease among men who have sex with men, fearing it could also mark a rise in HIV transmission.

Now, according to the health department's November epidemiology report, the number of early cases of syphilis so far this year is at 285, a decrease from the 318 cases at this point in 2002. Across the board, the city has recorded fewer cases of syphilis in 2003 than it did in 2002. During the first nine months of 2003, the city reported 459 cases of new and latent syphilis, a drop from 495 during the same time period in 2002.

"We have seen the number of cases toward the end of 2003 start to level off and perhaps come down. This is a great opportunity to get people tested, get their partners treated, and get this epidemic under control," said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health's STD Prevention and Control

page 20 ▶

## Milk and Moscone families attend march

by Zak Szymanski

Students from Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy and George Moscone Elementary School lead the annual Milk March Sunday, November 23, in the Castro.



Rick Gerharter

We are a gentle angry people," several hundred people sang on Sunday, November 23, in front of the late Supervisor Harvey Milk's old camera store on Castro Street. "We are gay and straight together, we are singing for our lives."

The song — written by Holly Near after the murders of Milk and Mayor George Moscone — was appropriate for the diverse crowd, which had gathered to commemorate the men a quarter century after they were gunned down by former Supervisor Dan White in City Hall on November 27, 1978.

The 25th annual Milk March was one of the largest in recent years, with an estimated 1,000 people in attendance, including members of both murdered men's families. This year's event included an afternoon of performance in the Castro and a post-march rally in Collingwood Park. Milk's camera shop was a stop along the route, which looped from Harvey Milk Plaza to Church Street, up 18th and Castro, and onto Collingwood. An altar had been placed in front of the shop at 575 Castro Street, and people have been leaving brief notes since Sunday, said organizer Tommi Avicoli Mecca. The new store's owners have agreed to leave the altar up through Thanksgiving and the collected messages will be turned over to the archives at the GLBT Historical Society, Avicoli Mecca said Monday.

Many community leaders and allies participated in the march, including mayoral candidate and Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez, mayoral candidate and Supervisor Gavin Newsom, District Attorney Terence Hallinan, district attorney candidate Kamala Harris, Supervisors Tom Ammiano, Bevan Dufty, and Aaron Peskin, and former Supervisor Sue Bierman. The march itself was led by newer, younger activists from local schools and LGBT organizations. Relatives of Milk and Moscone were in attendance and were featured speakers at the rally. Many people choked back tears as they spoke and lis-

page 18 ▶

## LGBT center names cafe operators

by Matthew S. Bajko

Officials at the LGBT Community Center have selected a gay couple to operate the long vacant cafe space within the building. If all goes as planned, the new Three Dollar Bill Cafe should open in spring 2004.

"We wanted something that was fun, was queer, but we didn't really want to go with the rainbow pride route. We wanted something more clever. It is an expression many people know; it implies 'queer as...,'" explained Vince Constabileo about the name selection.

Constabileo, 34 and his domestic partner of 14 years, Peter Howells, 39, beat out three other competing proposals for the cafe that center officials reviewed. The couple lives only two blocks from the center in the Hayes Valley neighborhood.

"It is a very convenient, nice commute," said Constabileo. "We live in the neighborhood and were very much looking forward for the cafe opening in the center. It never did, so we inquired and they said they were accepting proposals."

The two men have never owned a business before, with Constabileo working as a freelance writer and Howells as a Web designer. But the two are confident they can make the cafe a successful venture.



Rick Gerharter

"We are used to working on our own and budgeting and filing quarterly taxes. We thought this would be a great change of pace," said Constabileo.

The men have signed a letter of intent with the center and expect to have finalized their lease negotiations in December. The lease will be for five years.

Center Executive Director Thom Lynch

would not disclose the terms of the deal, citing ongoing discussions with the couple.

"We are still negotiating some of the points. We have some ideas but nothing I want to go public with yet," said Lynch of how much revenue the cafe will generate for the building. "We think it will be good for both parties."

He said the applicants had nixed his suggestion to call it Bottoms Cafe, a play on words with the It's Tops diner across the street.

"Isn't that a great name?" Lynch said of the Three Dollar Bill choice.

The cafe naming rights had been given to Thomas White, a 68-year-old gay multimillionaire who donated \$250,000 to the center in 2002 and is currently incarcerated in the

page 19 ▶

## Making spirits bright

Members of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, including conductor Kathleen McGuire, center, perform Monday, November 24 at 18th and Castro streets during the lighting of the holiday tree.



Jane Philomen Cleland

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# Under One Roof CEO steps down

by Cynthia Laird

**P**aul Olsen, who has led Under One Roof – the store that benefits numerous AIDS service organizations – since 1999, will step down early next year. The agency plans to conduct an external search for a successor.

"There's absolutely no drama," Olsen told the Bay Area Reporter on Friday, November 21. "As I told the staff, it's just one of those things."

Olsen, who joined the store in 1996 as general manager and became chief executive officer on 1999, plans to stay on to help ensure a smooth transition.

In a statement, Olsen explained his decision to step down. "While I value this organization and the dedicated volunteers and staff that are its soul, we have reached the point where it's time for someone else to leave his/her mark on the organization. This is a time of tremendous potential for Under One Roof, and the infrastructure is in place for someone else to come on board and help realize that potential. I'm looking forward to new challenges for myself, and continued involvement in this terrific organization."

One of Olsen's greatest successes was helping oversee the move of Under One Roof to its present location at 549 Castro Street. Since 1990, when the store opened on Market Street, store operations

have generated close to \$10 million in revenue for ASOs. Five years ago, when the store moved to its Castro Street location, sales grew by more than 60 percent and the board of directors transitioned from a community-based funding board to a working/professional board, Olsen noted.

There are now 42 ASOs that benefit from proceeds generated by purchases made at the store. Olsen said that the store raises "a little less than \$1 million a year" for the ASOs.

"Paul leaves behind a strong organization and I want to thank him for his contributions and the strategic thinking he brought to key Under One Roof initiatives," stated Howard Thornton, board chairman and president of Triangle Studio. "His participation in executing the move to the new Castro Street location was a major factor in its success."

Olsen said he expects to stay on "certainly through the end of January." He also expects to do volunteer work at the store.

Under One Roof is accepting applications for the position of executive director through January 10 with a goal of having a new director in place by the first of February. The job description, responsibilities, and requirements can be obtained by e-mailing [hr@underoneroof.org](mailto:hr@underoneroof.org).

This Sunday, November 30, Under One Roof will host a wine



UOR's CEO Paul Olsen

sale, featuring fine wines from the Napa Valley and elsewhere.

"Each year, we receive support of many of the Napa and Sonoma top wine estates and were able to offer some of the world's most sought-after wines," said Tom Fuller, a Napa Valley publicist and event organizer.

In addition to top of the line wines, there will be a variety of wines priced between \$9-\$15 that will be available for sale.

This will be the seventh time that Under One Roof has hosted a wine sale event. Last year's sale drew an estimated 200 shoppers to the store and raised \$5,000. The event includes wine tasting, and knowledgeable experts from the industry will be pouring, answering questions, and making suggestions on which wines best complement certain dishes.

The wine sale takes place at the store from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information on the event, or to volunteer or make a donation to the store, call (415) 503-2300 or e-mail [info@underoneroof.org](mailto:info@underoneroof.org). ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Issues sure, but looks factor in mayor's race

by Matthew S. Bakko

**T**he negativity of stereotypes aside, gay men admittedly are known to judge a book by its cover. And nowhere is this more true than in this year's runoff race for mayor.

While Supervisors Gavin Newsom and Matt Gonzalez wrangle over political stances and policy positions on homelessness, school funding, and economic development, voters have also been paying attention to their outwardly appearance.

For months now, Newsom's good looks and Gonzalez's disheveled appearance have been whispered about in bars, restaurants, and living rooms. Even political columnists have devoted space to how each candidate's facade seems to attract different sets of people.

A-gays are said to be following behind the dapper Newsom, a supposedly silver-spoon fed Democrat who shows up at campaign events impeccably dressed. His hair is so slicked back even the city's infamous ocean-fueled winds fail to tussle it.

Along with the straight women said to be ogling Gonzalez, there are the progressive gay boys and girls who eschew LGBT for queer. A Green Party member and president of the Board of Supervisors, Gonzalez would have no problem fitting in at the Stud. The stud muffins at the South of Market bar could care less if one's suit is a hand-me-down or your coif re-coils are being combed.

From presidential wannabes on down to city council seat pursuers, candidates are always judged by their looks. In politics, everything is game when assessing who should be elected.

And while they laugh when asked if their looks are drawing into their camps the gays for



Mayoral candidates Gavin Newsom, left, and Matt Gonzalez.

Gavin and queers for Matt, both campaigns are cognizant of the fact that their candidate's image is everything.

"He is the perfect *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* makeover," joked Gonzalez campaign manager Enrique Pearce, a gay man himself, of his preferred replacement for term-out Willie Brown. "Listen, I have worked with both Matt and Gavin. I have seen them up close; I have seen, you know, the hard casket that is Gavin Newsom with gelled hair. I have seen Matt in his rumpled suits, slouched over. And I can honestly tell you both of them are good looking guys."

"But their characters are very, very different," added Pearce. "They are worlds apart."

Now that he has survived the November election, where he beat out seven other contenders for the second-place spot, Gonzalez seems to be more focused on his personal presentation. Political watcher Arthur Evans, in one of his "What I saw today" scribes, noted recently that the candidate "was sporting a new do, shorter

and neater, and wearing a dark blue suit that actually fit. His posture improved, too."

Pearce, who spoke with the Bay Area Reporter as Gonzalez was unavailable, noted that during the campaign leading up to the November vote, a larger than life Newsom billboard poster loomed over the gay men gathered outside eateries on upper Market Street.

"You know what I think is really funny is the fact Gavin Newsom tries to very clearly market himself for the gay community," said Pearce, pointing out that in the photo Newsom had opened his shirt a little bit. "I found that hysterical."

Asked about the way looks may be playing a factor in the race after winning the endorsement of openly gay Supervisor Bevan Dufty, Newsom smiled and laughed at the question at first. He then responded that, "I don't care what you look like. If you don't have a record to stand on then you don't get support."

Smiling once again, he added,

page 20 ▶

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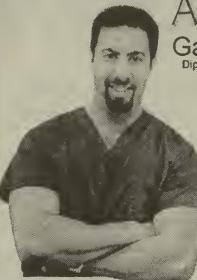
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# Thanksgiving dinners offered in SF

by Cynthia Laird

For those who want to help others this Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 27), have no where else to go, or just want to enjoy the holiday with others, there are plenty of community events for the holiday.

Tenderloin Tessie's annual Thanksgiving dinner takes place at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street, at Geary, from 1-4 p.m.

Organizer Tom Basch said that volunteers are always welcome, particularly those who can help with clean-up after the dinners have been served.

The dinners – often accompanied by entertainment, and attended by activists and advocates in the gay, leather, and political communities – offer a sit-down experience with a family atmosphere for about 1,000 guests, according to organizers.

For more information, or to donate time or food, call Basch at (415) 922-0422, or contact Toby at (415) 255-7503.

Glide Memorial United Methodist Church will host its Thanksgiving worship services at 9 and 11 a.m. at the church, located at 330 Ellis Street. Thanksgiving meals will be served at the church from 7 to 8:30 a.m. and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as Glide continues its work of helping those who live in the margins.

"During the holiday season, everyone talks about loving their neighbor and helping the less fortunate," said the Reverend Cecil Williams. "But it's not the talk. It's the walk."

Added Glide Executive Director Janice Mirikitani, "This year has again been a difficult year. It is time for us to open our hearts and give hope to those in need."

Glide is making an appeal for financial donations, and food, especially turkeys and canned goods. To donate money, send checks to Glide Memorial, 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, or donate through Glide's Web site at [www.Glide.org](http://www.Glide.org). Food donations should be dropped off at the north side of the church.

Metropolitan Community

Church-San Francisco will again host a community Thanksgiving dinner at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th Street between Eureka and Diamond streets, from noon-2 p.m. Volunteers are welcome and can show up at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka Street at 8 a.m. or show up at the school at 11:30 a.m. MCC-SF will hold a Thanksgiving worship service at 10 a.m.

For information on donations or to volunteer, call Courtney Gulden at (415) 865-2748.

The Haight Ashbury Food Program will host Thanksgiving dinner from noon-3 p.m. at 1525 Waller Street. Traditional as well as vegetarian meals will be offered. For more information, call (415) 566-0366.

The St. Anthony Foundation will hold Thanksgiving dinner at its dining room at 45 Jones Street and will continue serving as long as there's a line, organizers said. The foundation will begin serving seniors, families with children, and those with disabilities at 11 a.m., with doors opening for the general public at noon. For more information, call (415) 241-2600. ▼

# Castro tree project moves forward

by Peter Meredith

Concerns over liability issues, and opposition to the planting of cherry trees, have delayed a beautification project along the Castro business corridor.

To speed along the project, city officials have stepped in to spearhead the process and assume liability for the trees. Department of Public Works staff have now approached the community to determine which trees will be planted along Castro Street.

Along with the disputed cherry trees, other choices include ginkgos, queen palms, and arbutus marina. A decision needs to be made by the end of the year so that planting can proceed sometime in January at the earliest.

The issue will be addressed at next week's meeting of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro. At the merchant group's meeting earlier this month, a decision on which tree species to support was postponed due to differences over tree preferences. Some merchants are opposed to cherry trees, complaining that when the trees' blossoms drop they are blown inside stores and require staff to sweep up the petals. Other business owners support the plants, saying the tree's brilliant pink flowers in the spring will brighten up the streetscape.

Residents of the neighborhood have mostly supported the planting of cherry trees, which already line several blocks of 19th Street in the Castro and dot 18th Street. Gustavo Serina, president of the Eureka Valley Promotion Association, said that although the residential group fully supports the planting of trees, it has not taken an official stance on which trees

should line Castro Street.

"Many of our members working on this were in favor of the cherry trees," he said. "I just hope they have trees that are green all year round, that is my personal opinion."

Trees have been planted with less fanfare and controversy along residential streets in the Castro. Volunteers planted 39 trees in the neighborhood on November 15. The planting – as well as the proposed planting scheduled in the commercial areas – was inspired by Supervisor Bevan Dufty's proposal for a "Castro Renaissance," an effort to make the neighborhood more clean, vibrant, and walking.

This summer, Castro resident Hank Matallana began organizing neighbors to plant trees on their property in the median between the sidewalk and the street. Working with the nonprofit Friends of the Urban Forest, Matallana recruited neighbors largely through word of mouth.

Matallana signed up more than 25 residents to plant trees on their properties. The residents paid FUF \$150 for each tree, planting deciduous pear, magnolia, mayten, arbutus marina, Washington thorn and other species of their choice from FUF's catalog of trees. On Saturday, November 15, the residents gathered with about other 25 other volunteers to plant the trees, following a presentation by FUF staffers on planting techniques.

"People had a really wonderful time," said Matallana. "It was great for people to participate, talk to each other, and really cooperate to achieve the goal of planting. People really chipped in with everything they had."

A tree planting in the Castro's commercial strip will happen in early 2004, according to DPW of-

ficials and leaders of MUMC. The commercial planting, which will occur along Castro Street between Market and 19th streets, was initially planned to coincide with the residential planting, but was delayed due to merchants' concerns. Under the initial plan, merchants planting trees in front of their property would have been asked to sign agreements with FUF accepting liability for water pipes broken during digging or pedestrian injuries caused by trees.

"When organizers started walking around to visit all of the businesses that were potential tree sites, several merchants were interested, but after reading [the agreement] they called back and said they weren't going to sign it," said Gary Weiss, owner of the shop Ixia and one of the tree-planting organizers in the commercial area of the Castro.

To alleviate the concerns, the DPW adopted the project. The department plans to mail a letter to Castro Street merchants in early 2004 informing them that trees will be planted, giving commercial property owners a chance to object to planting on their property if they want. Under the new plan, "the trees and any damage or liability these trees may cause is the responsibility of the city," according to the city's acting urban forester Tony Wolcott.

Along Castro Street, the city hopes to plant 12 new trees and replace 21 old ones, according to Jessica Perez, associate landscape architect with the city's Bureau of Urban Forestry and project manager for the Castro Renaissance. If the city gets permission from merchants to plant in yellow loading/unloading zones, she expects the number to go up by 10 trees.

"In our view, it's a great opportunity." ▶



From left: Publicis Dialog's John Munyan, poster model Ken Jones, and Executive Director Tom Nolan show off Project Open Hand's new pro bono ad in the Castro Muni station. The ads will appear on buses in San Francisco and the East Bay, as well as several Muni stations through the end of the year.

## Advertising firm helps Project Open Hand

by Cynthia Laird

Just in time for the holiday season, and with an eye toward increasing donations, Project Open Hand last week unveiled a pro bono ad campaign that aims to focus on the warmth of the agency that provides meals and groceries to those living with HIV/AIDS and other critical illnesses and for low-income seniors.

The first ad, currently in several Muni stations and on buses throughout the city, also features Kenneth Jones, a longtime client of Project Open Hand. Jones was on hand at the Castro Muni station Friday, November 21, and said it was "lovely" to see his image on the billboard.

"I've been a client for six years," Jones said, adding that he receives meals and groceries from the agency.

"The advertising campaign reflects Project Open Hand's philosophy that you can find good neighbors, even in a crowded urban environment like the Bay Area," explained Tom Nolan, executive director.

The campaign was created by the San Francisco office of Publicis Dialog, part of the U.S. unit of the Paris-based Publicis Worldwide and Publicis Groupe S.A. The ads feature needlepoint panels posted in urban settings. The needlepoint panels tout the importance of kindness as well as the importance of food: "Love thy neighbor," reads one panel, "and while you're at it, take him a pot roast." The image of Jones is next to the needlepoint. Other images incorporate different sayings and feature other clients, a volunteer, and a staff person.

To create the ads, Publicis Dialog enlisted the help of the Embroiderers' Guild of America. Five of that group's members worked more than 300 hours to create the five original needlepoint panels that were photographed for use in the ads.

"Project Open Hand's home-style approach to caring led to the 'home sweet home' style of the ads," said Tom Kavanaugh, executive creative director for Publicis

Dialog in San Francisco. "We wanted to let folks know that there are still folks out there who care—that the interaction with the volunteer is as important as the food."

Nolan explained that Project Open Hand approached several ad agencies to see if they were interested in the pro bono campaign. Publicis beat out another firm for the project and work started a few months ago. Publicis Dialog is the eighth largest advertising agency in San Francisco, according to the *San Francisco Business Times*.

Ellen Snook, an account supervisor at Publicis Dialog, was on hand at the Castro Muni station last week.

"We're dedicated to the community and Project Open Hand is a great organization," she said. "Working with them was a great opportunity for us to do some really great creative work."

Stacy Paynter, CEO of Publicis Dialog San Francisco, declined to specify the value of the pro bono work. "We don't disclose our financials, but it was a significant contribution on our part," she said in a statement.

The ads should be up through the end of the year. In addition to the Muni stations and buses, ads will also be seen on AC Transit buses in the East Bay; Project Open Hand also serves clients in Alameda County. The ads were placed by Optimedia, the media division of Publicis USA.

This week will be a busy one for Project Open Hand. The organization will serve 1,600 pounds of turkey to its clients on Thanksgiving, along with 1,000 pounds of mashed potatoes, 950 pounds of peas and carrots, 50 gallons of homemade gravy, and 150 pumpkin pies. Project Open Hand serves meals to almost 2,000 clients 365 days a year.

"We try to put together a meal that anyone would like to have for Thanksgiving," said Executive Chef Mike Baroman-Coggins.

And the ad campaign isn't the only help the folks at Publicis Dialog are providing for the agency. A group of managers and staff from the ad company spends about half a day each month at

Project Open Hand volunteering, stocking shelves, and assisting clients in the grocery center. ▼

For more information about Project Open Hand, visit [www.openhand.org](http://www.openhand.org).

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## Of Milk and marriage

Twenty-five years ago Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone were murdered in their City Hall offices. Milk's assassination by disgruntled ex-Supervisor Dan White galvanized San Francisco's gay community; but a quarter century later we are still dealing with many of the same issues — homophobia, antigay violence, transgender murders, and the unending verbal assaults against same-sex couples by religious conservatives. Twenty-five years ago the right was trying to outlaw gay teachers in California, an effort that went down to defeat at the ballot box thanks in large part to Milk's unrelenting campaign against the initiative. Today the battle has shifted east, to Massachusetts, where last week the Supreme Judicial Court ruled that same-sex couples have the right to marry. The ruling, as most readers know, threw the matter back to the state Legislature, which has 180 days to change the law.

As we await the next developments in our fight for equality, we are reminded of one of Milk's true legacies — his desire for gays and lesbians to come out of the closet. Milk rightly believed that as more people — our friends, families, and co-workers — found out that people they know are gay, the better chance for barriers to come down, for communication to begin, and for rights to be secured.

Thanksgiving is a great time to do just that, for those who are fortunate enough to celebrate the holiday with loving families and straight friends.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, in conjunction with the Federation of Statewide LGBT Advocacy Organizations, the Freedom to Marry Coalition of Massachusetts, and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, issued a statement Monday calling on LGBTs to use this holiday to talk with family members and friends about the rights we do not have because our partnerships are not recognized as marriage.

And advocates for same-sex marriage need to get on the same page with their arguments; specifically, we need to reshape the



Harvey Milk outside his Castro Camera store.

argument as one of revitalizing marriage, rather than let the religious right have ownership of the homophobic "protection of marriage" mantra. Former Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun, one of the Democratic presidential candidates, got it right during a debate in Iowa Monday when she talked about how committed couples strengthen marriage, no matter what their sexual orientation.

The Reverend Al Sharpton, another Democratic presidential candidate, also strongly supports gay marriage as a human right. If two committed people are not allowed to marry, he said during the forum, the country is saying they are less than human. That was true when interracial marriages were outlawed in many states, he said, and it is true now regarding same-sex couples.

Former General Wesley Clark said he supported equal rights for all and he supported the Massachusetts court ruling. He didn't use the word "marriage," but made it clear to us that he is ahead of rivals Howard Dean, John Kerry, and Richard Gephardt, all of whom are on record as being against gay marriage. Dean, of course, signed the civil

union law while governor of Vermont, but that is not the same as marriage.

In recent days, antigay activists have repeatedly raised the specious tactic that gay marriage will "destroy the institution of marriage." That's just not going to happen. Gay and lesbian couples, if allowed to marry in this country, likely will want the same things their heterosexual counterparts want: a good job, affordable housing, good public education, and access to health care. In fact, that's what most people in this country want, whether gay or straight, married or single.

Those were the same rights that Harvey Milk fought for during his career, along with domestic partnership laws and ending discrimination against gays. Milk's murder on November 27, 1978 robbed our community of a bright, funny man, who could play the skillful game of politics with the best of them. He used his brief tenure in office to inspire the burgeoning gay community, and used the bully pulpit that came with elected office to urge the community to come out and come together to achieve equality.

Twenty-five years later, the spirit of Harvey Milk lives on. ▼

## Editorial

## Nephew reflects on Harvey Milk

by Stuart Milk

It was Monday afternoon on November 10, 2003, the last day of my second visit to San Francisco since the 1978 assassination of my uncle, Harvey Milk. I was to give a talk at the University of San Francisco in a couple hours on my memory of my uncle and the impact his death had on me in 1978 as his gay teenage nephew. The one and only time I had previously talked to a public audience as Harvey's openly gay relative was back in 1985 at Oberlin College. The time to provide my thoughts again seemed right when USF offered me the opportunity to participate in its remembrance program, yet I still did not know where I would begin.

A walk seemed appropriate to gather my thoughts, and as I wandered away from the USF campus, I ended up at a nearby supermarket, up one of these wonderful hills this beautiful city so magically hangs on its horizons. After grabbing bottled water I found myself in line behind a very frail looking, elderly woman who was agreeable and engaged in dialogue with the young cashier. Something about the need to always keep an open mind in the course of living life was the overall message this very conservative looking woman was imparting on the eager ears behind the cash register. As the woman showed the cashier her even frailer looking hands she said, "I learned to never close the door on what is possible" as she declined carry out service and departed.

This last comment about not closing the door to what is possible stayed with me as I paid for my water and began to walk back to the USF campus. At the corner of Masonic and Geary I again found myself behind this woman; she had placed her two

bags on the curb and was unsuccessfully trying to get the attention of a young woman also waiting at the light. "I did not realize I had gotten so much," she said as she turned back to me and added, "would you, could you help me across..." "Of course," was my reply as I picked up her packages and we began to cross Geary, "I am walking in this direction for several blocks" I added. "Oh, I am not going that way," she replied as she turned and continued walking now across Masonic. As I looked down Geary and saw this street running downtown I silently thought my temporary assistance might keep me from my talk.

After a few sentences exchanged on thoughts of healthy eating she shared that her grandchildren used to help her, "but they are grown with children and I only hear from them when they think I can give them some advice from all the years I have seen." I felt I was granted a reprieve when we had crossed Masonic and she quickly said, "There is my bus," and it was right in front of us. As she stepped onto the bus and I handed over her groceries she offered her heartfelt thanks, extended her hand, and provided me with her first and last name. I, in turn, offered her my full name as well, "Stuart Milk and I am glad that I could assist." As she turned toward the bus driver, she paused and turned back to me, "Are you, are you... were you related to Harvey?" "Yes, his nephew," I promptly replied as the bus doors began to close. This confident, conservative looking, frail, elder, great-grandmother hurriedly exclaimed, "He taught me. He taught me to be open minded, I didn't know him but I was changed, my view of life forever changed." And with

those last words, "my view of life forever changed," the bus departed and I knew how I would begin my talk.

As it did for thousands and thousands of queer and straight people alike, November 27, 1978 created a transformational event that forever changed the way I view life. I have come to cherish the conversations I had with Harvey with the same regard that many cherish and hold sacred the material artifacts of his life. I have also come to cherish all the wonderful voices that have given and continue to give life to Harvey's words and hopes.

At this 25th anniversary of that transformational event that was such a great loss we are appropriately at a crossroads of some unfolding critical issues.

It even seems as if Harvey from afar has metaphorically brought our queer community in the national spotlight this month. We are reminded to ask ourselves, how do we want to view life? Enough of us have now benefited from the fruits of the struggle and those that amplified Harvey's voice add life to his greater message after he was gone.

It is my humble belief that we cannot stand still, we cannot be content on the sidelines, and we cannot let those that view life with hate and fear control the agenda of the present. We must build on the gains made by those that came before us. We must become a part of the Harvey Milk legacy. And we must awaken the silent and sleeping voices that are around us and inside of us. We all now have this opportunity in time to become Harvey's voice and newly reach and teach to open minds, and co-create our equality, including our basic human right to marry, and we must facilitate new views of life that will forever be changed. ▼

## Guest Opinion



Courtesy The Harvey Milk Archives/Scott Smith Collection at SF Public Library

## LETTERS

### The 'S' words

Whenever politicians anywhere on the political spectrum speak against gay marriage, they say that marriage is sacred, that it is a sacrament, that its sanctity must be protected. Look up these s-words in a dictionary and you will find that they are, in their primary meanings, religious. Recall your grade-school history lessons or read the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and you will find that religion and government are supposed to be kept separate.

It seems that a good approach to the gay marriage problem would be to completely eliminate the word marriage from the law, replacing it with "civil domestic union" or, preferably, a more graceful term meaning the same thing to be suggested by some historian, anthropologist, linguist, or word smith. Religions could of course still perform marriages in any way they wished, just as they can perform baptisms, bar mitzvahs, confirmations, sealings, annulments, absolutions, exorcisms, funeral rites, etc., and with the same legal significance, i.e., none. Whether the religious and legal ceremonies should still be combinable (as now), or whether they would need to be separated (as they are now in France) is a question to be decided.

This plan would achieve the goal of equal rights for same-sex couples, would preserve the sanctity of the sacrament of sacred marriage for those who see it, and would be a step forward in separation of church and state.

Robert Carr  
Oakland, California

### Supports Mass. decision

In a letter a few years ago, I expressed my support for the decision made by the Vermont Supreme Court in the case of *Baker v. State*.

At this time, I would like to express my support for the decision of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and hope that the Massachusetts Legislature will comply with this decision.

I am opposed to the defense of marriage amendments to either the Massachusetts Constitution or the United States Constitution.

While I support the renomination and re-election of President George W. Bush, I do not agree with the views he expresses on this issue.

Robert V. Wood  
San Francisco

### Feeble Democrats

I don't understand why any self-respecting homosexual would be insistent on supporting the Democratic Party. I have been reading the articles and letters in support of Gavin Newsom and the dire warnings of fallout for supporting a candidate from the Green Party.

It's time to open our minds to the fact that the Democrats are failing us.

This is what the Democrats have to say, quoted from the *Chronicle*, after the announcement from the Supreme Court of Massachusetts: "Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., denounced the Massachusetts decision. The leading Democratic presidential candidates stated their support for equal rights for gay couples but did not back gay marriage. Only Al Sharpton, Carol Moseley Braun, and Dennis Kucinich, all trailing at the back of the pack, support same-sex marriage. Daschle applauded the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which passed on an overwhelming 85-14 bipartisan vote in the Senate and was signed by President Bill Clinton. DOMA, as it is known, defines marriage as between a man and a woman for all federal purposes such as tax and immigration law."

Does Gavin Newsom, our Democratic candidate for mayor, support his party? His party certainly supports him. Nancy [Pelosi], Di [Dianne Feinstein], and Babs [Barbara Boxer] all (at the end of a bayonet) endorse him. Are Nancy, Di, and Babs going to fight to ensure that homosexuals are allowed to enjoy rights that are extended to all other Americans, or will there be a compromise: civil unions, the separate, but equal choice?

Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act. He also approved "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." The Democratic Party will say anything to get our votes and our money to help get them into office.

Why is it that I can picture being marched down the center of Market Street on the way to a concentration camp and hearing people say "Don't worry, the Democrats will save us"? The camps will probably be built by Di Fi's favorite company, Bechtel. She can talk about how she supports civil rights, while her husband gets rich building the gas chambers.

There are other options, and now is the chance for San Franciscans to show the rest of the country exactly how much we value civil rights. This is our opportunity to elect Matt Gonzalez – the country's highest elected Green official.

Anyone who still clings to the idea that Ralph Nader is to blame for Bush being elected is either not informed, or is using fear to keep people from aban-

doning the Democratic Party (a decidedly Republican tactic). Presidents are elected by earning a majority of electoral votes. Nader didn't take any electoral votes from Gore. There are two states where Nader's votes combined with Gore's exceeded Bush's votes – New Hampshire and Florida. New Hampshire didn't have enough electoral votes to put Gore ahead, but Florida did. To blame Nader for what happened in the state of Florida is to provide Bush with a scapegoat. Why let Bush off the hook, or for that matter Gore himself, who ran a lousy campaign? Why didn't Gore accept support from his two-faced buddy Bill Clinton? Gore couldn't even win a majority of votes in his home state of Tennessee.

When it comes down to which candidate I trust to be mayor of San Francisco, I can't help but completely discount any Democratic candidate (and especially the well-heeled Gavin Newsom).

It's irresponsible to blindly vote for the feckless Democrats.

Patrick Connors  
San Francisco

### Gonzalez's quality-of-life record

A wave of letters in favor of mayoral candidate Matt Gonzalez recently surged across the pages of the B.A.R. But they forgot to mention his record in regard to the city's quality-of-life crisis. It has one high point, but many lows.

The high point is that Gonzalez is pushing to get a much-needed Decaux public toilet on the main drag in the upper Haight. If and when the Decaux arrives, Haight Street will be more sanitary and smell better, too. Gonzalez deserves credit for this push.

Unfortunately, other actions by Gonzalez have been lows. For example, in October 2001, Supervisor Tony Hall brought up a bill to allow police to warn, cite, and arrest people who hang out around Decaux toilets for illicit reasons (drug dealing and shooting up).

Supervisor Chris Daly introduced six amendments to strike all references to loitering from the bill. Hall said Daly's amendments would effectively gut the measure. Nonetheless, Gonzalez supported Daly's amendments and attacked the bill.

The objections by Daly and Gonzalez were answered by testimony from the city attorney's office, the police department, and the health department. They convinced the supervisors to pass Hall's bill. But Daly and Gonzalez voted against it, the only ones to do so.

Another low occurred in July 2002. Tony Hall brought up a bill to outlaw public urination and defecation. The supes eventually approved it 11-0, including Gonzalez.

However, Chris Daly first introduced an amendment that would have delayed enforcement of the bill until the city could certify that there was a sufficient number of public toilets in the city. Hall objected to Daly's amendment, saying it would effectively gut the measure.

Gonzalez spoke in favor of Daly's amendment. He said he was moved to do so by his previous experience as a public defender.

In response, Mark Leno said he had uncovered a telling fact. The areas of the city that make the most requests to the city to clean up human waste are the ones that already have the most public toilets in place. The district with the most complaints is Daly's!

Daly's crippling amendment was defeated with five in favor, and six opposed. The five in favor of the crippling amendment were Tom Ammiano, Chris Daly, Matt Gonzalez, Jake McGoldrick, and Gerardo Sandoval.

Another low occurred in October 2001. A public outcry grew over the increasing filth of the city, especially in regard to homeless encampments. Despite the outcry, Tom Ammiano and Matt Gonzalez proposed a measure that would have required the city to wait at least 24 hours to clean up a public mess involving the homeless, after it had been identified by complaints from the public or the cops.

Representatives from the Department of Public Works said the bill would seriously handicap their already-limited efforts to keep the city clean and add to their costs. The board rejected the measure, with only four supes in favor (Tom Ammiano, Chris Daly, Matt Gonzalez, and Gerardo Sandoval).

There was another low in the same month. Gonzalez blocked an effort by Mark Leno to make the Castro cleaner. Leno had introduced a bill to have the board's legislative analyst assess the cost for more street cleaning and graffiti removal in the Castro.

Requests to the legislative analyst are routine and usually whiz through. But Gonzalez unexpectedly objected this time. He said Leno should complain to the Department of Public Works, which is under the mayor, not go through the board's legislative analyst.

Leno was stunned. The board voted to postpone consideration of the matter. At the next meeting, Gonzalez reversed himself and supported the resolution.

Another low occurred in November 2000, when

next page ▶

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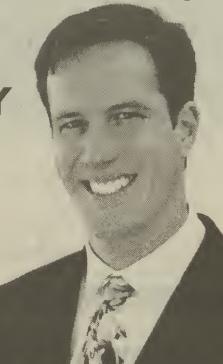
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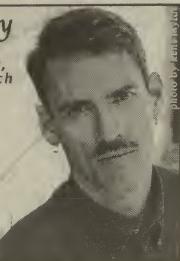
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12/02

**Mailstrom**

◀ previous page

Gonzalez first ran for supervisor in District 5. He came out against stay-away orders. These are directives from a judge, ordering someone who has been repeatedly convicted of drug-dealing to stay away from certain neighborhoods. They are one of the few effective tools that neighborhoods have in fighting drug thugs.

Gonzalez said his experience as a public defender led him to see stay-away orders as unfair to drug dealers. Gonzalez also turned a deaf ear to residents who were then pleading with the city to get tough with the marijuana dealers on Haight Street. With the money they get from marijuana sales, the dealers buy heroin for themselves, get stoned, and trash the neighborhood.

Unmoved by residents' concerns, Gonzalez said, "I have been an outspoken critic of trying to deal with the problem of marijuana sales on Haight Street with felony convictions."

Gonzalez's overall record raises an obvious question: What will happen to the quality of life in our city's neighborhoods if he becomes mayor?

Arthur Evans  
San Francisco

**A mayor with principle**

I was pleased to see so many letters in last week's issue responding to the B.A.R.'s distorted coverage of the mayoral race. As a gay lawyer who has lived in Mission/Dolores Park for six years, I have been a supporter of Matt's since he first ran for district attorney. With the world of politics saturated with seemingly artificial politicians acting at the behest of campaign contributors, Matt's refusal to pander to these interests offers the possibility of honest and responsible government.

Indeed, although Chris Daly's stealth appointment of a qualified candidate to the Public Utilities Commission has been criticized as contempt for due process, it more importantly highlights the desperate need for a mayor who will make appointments based on merit, and not as Willie Brown has done, on patronage. Matt Gonzalez is such a mayor. His integrity, intelligence, and commitment to advocate on behalf of all San Franciscans sets him apart from his opponent and presents a welcome and refreshing change from politics as usual.

Matthew Vespa  
San Francisco

**Newsmo can get city moving**

As a resident of San Francisco for 47 years and a business person in the Upper Market neighborhood for 34 years, I enthusiastically support Gavin Newsom for mayor. I have met with Mr. Newsom many times, and am sure he is the one to get the city moving in the right direction.

James (Robbie) Robinson  
San Francisco

**Progressive politics makes SF great**

Years ago I moved to San Francisco because of its progressive political ideals. The city is unique in its celebration of diversity and its respect for artists, tenants, immigrants, and queers.

Harvey Milk spent his life fighting for the unrepresented; the people who lacked the power and influence to fight for themselves. Now, 25 years after Harvey's murder, we have the opportunity to elect a mayor who represents the progressive ideals that made San Francisco great. Matt Gonzalez, as a public defender and supervisor, has proven his commitment to fighting for the people who need it most and as a gay man that is very important to me. That is why I hope you will join me in voting for Matt Gonzalez on December 9.

Tony Mueller  
San Francisco

**Bill's his guy**

I agree with Bill Harrison ("Matt's his guy," November 20) about Matt Gonzalez and Gavin Newsom. On paper, I agree with many of Gavin's ideas. For example, I agree with his idea to fast-track major projects already online such as the Third Street light rail, the new UCSF campus at Mission Bay, Bloomingdale's, and so on. I think he cares more about major projects in the city than does Matt, whose ideas seem interesting, but academic. With Gavin perhaps someday we will get somebody to make use of the Mission Street Armory; we'll maybe get a 49ers stadium and mall, an events arena, a cruise ship terminal, a renovated Market Street, and things like that.

However, in the final analysis, I use the approachability test. I ask myself whose office would I rather visit when I go to City Hall. It's Matt all over the place. He's accessible. He's real, like him or not. With Gavin, I think he feels too important to be accessible. I don't think he's really sure who he is. I'm not even sure if he really wants to be mayor or if he just thinks he

should want to be mayor because he's been told he'd be good at it.

It's really a question of whose mug do you want to see for the next four years. Like Bill Harrison says, Matt's got a nice mug, but nice mugs only go so far. There's got to be something underneath the mug that is real.

Michael Zonta  
San Francisco

**'Amusing' coverage**

It is as predictable as it is amusing to watch the wagons circle around the anointed successor to Mayor Brown when the runoff becomes possibly a little tighter than expected.

Playing its part, the B.A.R. presents as front-page news (with accompanying editorial) the fact that contributions for the Harvey Milk bust at City Hall have fallen short, and that this is somehow a "failure of leadership" on Matt Gonzalez's part (*"Is the Milk bust a bust?"*, "Gonzalez's 'leadership,'" Editorial, November 13). This is front-page news, of course, because we are "two weeks before the 25th anniversary of Harvey Milk's murder," and not because we are three weeks before the election, right? Right.

As front page news, one would expect the B.A.R. to ask some hard-hitting questions: if the bust is so important to the gay community, why haven't gay leaders stepped up to the plate? Where are the contributions from gay businesses and individuals? Has the (B.A.R.-endorsed) Gavin Newsom done anything? Has the B.A.R. itself contributed? Does the B.A.R. really expect Matt Gonzalez to make a couple more speeches on the steps of City Hall to goad our community into contributing to a memorial for one of our own? Of course not: the article and accompanying editorial were simply transparent cheap shots at a candidate the B.A.R. opposes. I for one am fired of the name "Harvey Milk" being trotted out every election cycle by people with whom the progressive Harvey Milk would never agree.

Perhaps it is because of Supervisor Gonzalez's clean record that his opponents feel the need to invent non-issues. In future elections, the B.A.R. might want to reconsider its tactics and actually use its front page to print real news. In the end, your article was less about a "failure of leadership" and more of a failure of journalism.

M. Banilow  
San Francisco

**Vito Russo remembered**

I wanted to thank Liz Highleyman for the column she wrote on Vito Russo in the B.A.R. last week (*"Who was Vito Russo,"* Past Out, November 6). I was a good friend of his partner Jeffrey Sevick.

Jeff and I worked at the Castro Theatre together and were there the night Vito did his book signing and incredible lecture/film clip presentation in 1981 that had a sold-out, standing room only attendance. Jeff met Vito that night and they quickly fell in love. Soon after Jeff moved to New York to be with Vito.

Your article brought back some really sweet memories of Jeff and Vito for me.

Frank Burgoyne  
San Francisco

**Russian River rocks**

The weekend of November 15-16 my partner, Allen, and I went to the Russian River to help the town celebrate its fourth annual Leather Weekend. I have never considered myself a "leather" person but I wanted to show my support to a town that has been so good to so many people. One of the events involved a contest picking a representative from that area to go to Chicago for IML. I have had my issues with contests and was skeptical about attending this function. To my surprise, this particular contest, produced by the outgoing Mr. North Coast Leather Scott Howard, was one of the best evenings I have ever had. Everything from the entertainment provided by Snatch and MC Graylin Thorton to the smart-ass, funny-as-hell antics of comedian Mike Uryga. The competition was not ego driven and a lot of money was raised for AIDS Emergency Fund of Sonoma County. The Guerneville Sisters were at the helm of the fundraising efforts headed by Sister Barbie Mitzvah. All the contestants were well spoken and any one of them would have made a great choice to go to IML. As the producer of Lazy Bear Weekend, I was very proud to see such a well organized event in a town that has had its share of problems for many years (any small town). With the new owners of the Rainbow Cattle Co. and the incredible overhaul of the RR Eagle as well as our home away from home, FIFE'S and The Triple R, Guerneville is finally learning how to draw us city folks up for fun filled weekends even during the off-season months.

Congratulations to the new Mr. North Coast Leather Eric Edelstein on representing your friends and family at IML in Chicago.

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## POLITICS

# New national cleric group to oppose Bush

by Wayne Friday

**J**ust as nearly all of us were convinced that George W. Bush and the conservative religious right had a lock on both the federal government and on American politics in general as we head into a presidential election year, the Associated Press reports that the Clergy Leadership Network, a group of several liberal and moderate religious leaders, has started a national political group to oppose both President Bush's re-election and his policies.

The Reverend **Albert Pennybacker**, the Washington-based president of the group, which includes Jews, Muslims, and Christians, said it will counter ultra-conservative religious groups such as the Christian Coalition. Pennybacker, who belongs to the Disciples of Christ, a Protestant denomination, is the former president of the Interfaith Alliance. The network contends that the Bush administration has interfered continually in the separation of church and state through programs such as the Bush-conceived "faith-based initiative," a program that offers federal money to religious organizations for work with the homeless, and drug and alcohol addicts.

The moderate-to-liberal Clergy Leadership Network also is critical of the Bush administration's foreign policy, which it contends consists largely of bullying other countries, and of the Bush economic policy, which it rightfully argues rewards the wealthy at the expense of children and poor families.

Network leaders don't say they want a Democrat in the White House after next year's elections, but make it clear they seek a change in leadership, including the presidency and the Republican Congress. Clearly intending to be a political force to counter the Christian Coalition, which has been an influential player in Republican Party politics for years, the new group's initial budget is said to be around \$400,000, but will undoubtedly become much larger as some wealthy individuals have already expressed interest in donating to offset the lobbying and political arm of the Christian Coalition.

The network won't accept any church funds; by giving to the group, churches, mosques, and temples would, of course, endanger their tax-exempt status. The network is registering with the Internal Revenue Service as a political organization and can use its soft money only on non-candidate-specific activities such as get-out-the-vote drives. The network will also have a political action committee that will collect limited individual and PAC contributions, and the group is asking donors to give \$25 initial donations.

Pennybacker said that the network won't endorse candidates, though individual members may do so on their own. Unlike the antigay, pro-life Christian Coalition, the Clergy Leadership Network plans to steer clear of con-

troversial issues that tend to divide religious groups.

The Christian Coalition was quick this week to react to the announcement of the new Clergy Leadership Network, labeling it as a left-wing group. **Roberta Combs**, president of the Christian Coalition and a strong Bush partisan, said she takes the new group's wish to be the "coalition of the moderate-left" to be a compliment. The very necessity of them forming a new organization "shows we've been doing our job for the past 13 years," Combs remarked.

The Christian Coalition has long been an influential player in Republican Party politics, and has spent more than \$1 million so far this year lobbying on legislation, including proposals on home schooling, in particular, the ban on late-term abortions.

The conservative, Republican-controlled Christian

Coalition reports to the IRS as a tax-exempt social welfare organization, but uses its money for a variety of activism, including widely distributed election-year voter guides describing how members of Congress voted on issues that the group has taken positions on. However, according to Combs, the coalition is now looking at establishing a soft-money political organization so it could participate even more in partisan Republican election activities.

Move aside **Lou Sheldon**, **Jerry Falwell**, and **Pat Robertson** — it appears that moderate religious leaders have a stake in the 2004 national elections, too.

## Politics and people

Amusing sight: A small group of obvious newcomers to the city were standing at Market and 17th streets Saturday afternoon holding Gonzalez signs, asking which bus to take "to get to Haight Ashbury" as still others were seen wandering around aimlessly as Castro Street regulars kept asking the Green Party imports where they were from (most, I'm told, answered that they were "visiting" from Oregon).

Meanwhile, the latest **David Binder** poll that I've heard about has Supervisor **Gavin Newsom**, the Democrat, leading Board of Supervisors President **Matt Gonzalez**, the Green Party candidate, in the mayor's race by a 50 percent to 36 percent margin, with 14 percent undecided.

In the district attorney's race, the same usually-reliable Binder poll has challenger **Kamala Harris** leading incumbent D.A. **Terrance Hallinan** by a 45 percent to 37 percent margin, with 18 percent undecided. Harris, one of the hardest-working campaigners I've ever encountered, is taking on the veteran Hallinan. Recently, one of Hallinan's loud backers predicted at the Twin Peaks bar that Hallinan's famous family name identification will "carry him through again despite his 'dismal' record" (dismal being the Hallinan supporter's own term, not mine). As for relying on a famous family name, one might ask **Angela Alioto** how far that takes a candidate these days.



## Our Man Friday

Frankly, there should be little question about the district attorney contest — Kamala Harris is clearly the best candidate in this race and deserves to be San Francisco's next top prosecutor.

Speaking of Angela Alioto, on Monday, November 24 she endorsed Gavin Newsom for mayor. Apparently the two said they are forming a partnership. If Newsom wins next month's runoff, look for Alioto to have a role in the new administration. Alioto, a longtime Democrat, apparently could not break party ranks to endorse Matt Gonzalez, a Green Party member.

Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** endorsed Matt Gonzalez at the end of his remarks during the Milk Memorial March on Sunday, November 23.

No question that Board of Equalization Chairwoman (and former Assemblywoman) **Carole Migden** is headed to Sacramento as our next state senator (3rd District) to succeed term-limited **John Burton**. Migden faces only token opposition from a total political unknown in the March Democratic primary and even lesser opposition from minor parties in next November's general election. It's not particularly great news for Democrats, however, since when Migden resigns her current BOE position to take the state Senate job, Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** will have the opportunity to replace her with a Republican appointment, giving control of the five-member Board of Equalization and Franchise Tax Board to the Republicans.

Speaking of legislators, word from Sacramento has it that our own Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D) is making quite a splash on the state, and even, on the national political stage. Leno was elected chair of the LGBT Legislative Caucus earlier this month, and wasted no time successfully lobbying presidential candidate Senator **John Kerry** (D-Massachusetts) to come out strongly against the referendum of AB205, California's landmark Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act, passed this year. Leno also persuaded Kerry to send a letter to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger urging him not to support the repeal effort. It's Leno's hope that Kerry's proactive stance will encourage other Democratic presidential contenders to join in the fight against yet another right-wing attack on LGBT people and their families.

Mark Leno kept his boxing gloves on by publicly pointing out the hypocrisy in Schwarzenegger's

page 11 ▶



Assemblyman Mark Leno

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# Gay marriage decision?

by Dale Carpenter

**D**id the Massachusetts high court really order the state to recognize gay marriages? That's certainly the way the decision in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health* was reported in the media. It quickly became conventional wisdom.

Before a week had passed, however, revisionism began. According to the revisionist view, the Massachusetts court gave the Legislature the choice whether to extend full marriage to gay couples or to give them the legal benefits of marriage under some other name. The revisionist view is being advanced by the Massachusetts governor and the state's attorney general, who oppose gay marriage. It is also being advanced by some who support gay marriage but who fear a devastating political backlash.

Are the revisionists right? Will civil unions suffice, as they did in neighboring Vermont three years ago when that state's highest court also addressed marriage discrimination?

The revisionist view has some support in the opinion. Andrew Koppelman, one of the leading gay-rights legal scholars in the country, argues the court "did not decree that same-sex couples were entitled to marry."

He bases this conclusion on three aspects of the decision. First, discussing the actual remedy given to the gay couples, the court said only that they were entitled to "the protections, benefits, and obligations of civil marriage." These things may be provided without attaching the word "marriage" to them.

Second, the court did not order the state to issue actual marriage licenses to gay couples.

Third, the court gave the Legislature 180 days to remedy the problem. This makes no sense, Koppelman maintains, unless the Legislature had some option other than simply to give gay couples marriage — a remedy the court itself easily could have imposed.

To these three arguments a fourth might be added: while a

court is properly concerned about discrimination in substantive rights, it has no business telling legislatures what they must call those rights. As long as the legislature has given gay couples all the privileges of marriage, this argument holds, it may call that package "marriage" or "civil unions" or "fried green tomatoes."

There's an additional concern. To read the decision as requiring marriage may scare the state into amending its constitution.

What's far worse, it may scare the country into adopting a federal constitutional amendment that would not only ban gay marriages but also civil unions and other forms of recognition. Koppelman, who supports gay marriage, urges activists to wait "a decade or two" before pressing for it.

I think the revisionists read both the opinion and the political climate the wrong way.

As for the opinion, it's true the court noted the exclusion of gay couples from marital "protections, benefits, and obligations." But it did so to emphasize one reason why marriage is so important. The Massachusetts court also recognized that "tangible as well as intangible benefits flow from marriage." The tangible benefits (filing joint tax returns and the like) can be captured by a marriage equivalent, but the intangible benefits (historically grounded social recognition) cannot fully be. So what it's called matters.

Notably, in fashioning its remedy, the court neither mentioned the Vermont example nor explicitly gave the state Legislature an alternative to marriage, as the Vermont court did. Instead, the court followed the model of a Canadian court last summer by stripping the opposite-sex requirement from the definition of marriage itself. "We construe marriage to mean the voluntary union of two persons as spouses," the Massachusetts court declared.

While it's true the court did not order the state to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, that's not what they asked for. They asked only for the court to declare unconstitutional marriage dis-

crimination against same-sex couples, which the court did by changing the definition of marriage to conform to state constitutional requirements.

What, then, is the Massachusetts Legislature supposed to do in the next six months? Marriage discrimination against same-sex couples is rife in state law. The Legislature, not a court, is best suited to deciding how to rewrite those discriminatory provisions. That's what the Legislature should do with its time if it wants to comply with the decision, not struggle to find ways to give gay couples a separate but equal status.

As for the politics, fears of a catastrophic backlash are probably exaggerated. Polls in Massachusetts show residents favor the decision by a 12-point margin and oppose a state constitutional amendment by a 17-point margin. As I wrote in this space last month, polls on this issue probably tend to exaggerate support for us. But we're already in a better position than we were in the immediate aftermath of the Vermont opinion, when a majority of that state's citizens opposed a more moderate result. Since a state constitutional amendment in Massachusetts requires eventual voter approval and since such a referendum could not be held until November 2006, there's time between now and then to calm fears.

As for a federal constitutional amendment, the prospects are even dimmer. It's hard to amend the Constitution, especially when one of the major parties opposes it, as the Democrats do. Even conservatives are divided on the issue, some because they've moderated on homosexuality and some because they believe states ought to make their own decisions about marriage.

If the Massachusetts decision sticks and we get our first experiment in real gay marriage, 2003 will be remembered as the year we turned a corner toward full equality. ▼

**Dale Carpenter** is a law professor. Some of his past columns can be read at [www.indegayforum.com](http://www.indegayforum.com). He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).



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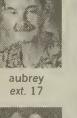
  
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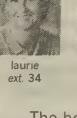
  
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## Remembering fallen friends



**A**ctivist and B.A.R. columnist Gwen Smith, second from right, leads transgenders and supporters through the Castro during the fifth annual Transgender Day of Remembrance march November 20. Smith, founder of the Remembering Our Dead project that tracks reported transgender murders around the world, noted that at least 37 such killings have taken place so far this year. The event also featured speakers at a rally at the LGBT Community Center.

Jane Philomen Cleland

## COMMENTARY

# There's something about transphobia

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

**S**ky One, a television station serving the United Kingdom, put on hold plans to air a reality program titled *There's Something About Miriam*. This only after the six male contestants filed lawsuits against Sky One and Brighter Pictures, the producers of the show.

One might have hoped they would have shelved it a long time ago, out of common decency — but they also know that transgender stories sell.

I actually feel sorry for most people involved in this story. The six men who participated in this show were little more than pawns in the machinations of Brighter Pictures. Even though there was some suspicion on their part as to what the "secret something" was about the object of their television affection, they still ended up discovering Miriam's transgender status under the glare of the television lens.

Of course, they retaliated, not only by suing those involved in the making of the show, but even with physical violence: One of the suitors reportedly punched a producer shortly after the revelation.

It's all pretty sad, and one of the sadder things of the story has to do with the "star" herself. Miriam actually felt that this show might be a good excuse to teach about transgender issues. I fail to see how being the center of a reality show where you are both the sex object and the deceiver is going to exactly engender positive response. After all, our society, and especially our media, has long cast transgender people as either sex objects or creatures of deception.

Maybe her goal was little more than making some spare money off this program, or maybe she was blinded by the same dreams of instant fame that rob so many others of wisdom. I don't know her, so I can't truly say what was on her mind when the producers brought her into this tawdry bit of reality programming.

When all is said and done, however, she was a willing participant, as were the six men, Brighter Pictures, and Sky One television. Everyone had their reasons, be it money, fame, or maybe even love. In the end, it looks like there's not much of any of these things to go around.

It's amazing to me that, in this day and age of "Joe Average," "The Joe Schmo Show," and so on, that a show like this would not make it



**Transmissions**



Christine Smith

on the air. Perhaps it is a sign of differing sensibilities on this side of the pond, but such a tale sounds like just the sort of thing for television networks feeding the public a steady diet of *Fear Factor* and *Big Brother*. The latter, I should add, was originally developed by Brighter Pictures.

Perhaps more surprising to me is that a show that never aired, from British television, ended up splashed all over the U.S. news media. Even CNN took precious moments out of its regular reshuffle of the day's events to tell us all about *There's Something About Miriam*.

It would seem that transgender people "pulling one over" on six guys on U.K. television was good enough to outshine the latest issues in Washington, Iraq, or just about anywhere outside of Neverland.

Of course, one really doesn't have to dig too deep as of late to find places where the media has decided to tell us all about "trans behaving badly." Aside from the *Miriam* flap, there have been scores of recent articles about trans prisoners needing surgery or — in the case of Billie Jo Hawks — housed in prison wings befitting their gender identity rather than genitals. There have even been articles about "transgender gangs" terrorizing the locals around Harvey Milk High School in New York City.

Speaking of Neverland — I assure you that we'll hear plenty of trans-related comments when it comes to the still-evolving Michael Jackson child molestation case. The usual wags have already been making points about Jacko's "womanly" appearance. Never mind that I don't know many people of any gender who have prosthetic noses.

Perhaps this is really what lies at the heart of shows like *There's*

*Something About Miriam* — and any number of other trans-related programs from Learning Channel documentaries to *The Jerry Springer Show*. The topic of transgenderism shocks and tantalizes an audience. When you can craft a story that goes that extra step further, and makes the transgender person into some oddity, you get ratings, and when you get ratings, you get advertising dollars. That's key.

Ultimately, I suspect that will have a lot more to say about the future of *There's Something About Miriam* than lawsuits against the show's producers. Should someone decide to make a U.S. version of the show, I doubt they'll have a lack of backers or advertisers willing to pony up to get it on the air. All those putting their money in would likely get what they wanted out of it, too.

In the end, the only educating about transgender issues that will come out of it is obvious: it will be more of the same about transgender people being party to deception. This doesn't make for a safe world for most transgender people, who want little to do with deceiving, and far more to do with living their lives.

The men in this story feel hurt, and I think they are welcome to their pain. Miriam is shocked that things went the way they did, and she, too, is welcome to those feelings. Like I said before, I feel sorry for those involved in this program, but my pity goes much deeper.

Yet, I find no pity in my heart for those who feel this is somehow "entertaining," especially when transgender people face much worse than lawsuits over being "humiliated" out in the real world. ▼

Gwen Smith notes that she predicted this TV program months ago in this column. You can find her on the Web at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

acceptance of six-figure campaign contributions from the largest underwriters of worker's compensation insurance, just one week before calling a special session of the Legislature on, you guessed it — workers' compensation. All this despite Schwarzenegger's pledge during his short campaign that he would "clean house" in Sacramento. It looks like the Schwarzenegger house is already getting a bit

dirty. Leno is only a freshman legislator in Sacramento, but we're lucky to have a strong voice like his in the Statehouse at a time when our community and our democratic values are under attack from all sides. If Leno's first year is any indication, we can expect a lot of great things to come from this respected and hardworking legislator. Not at all embarrassed to say, I'm a big political fan of the guy.

Mayor Willie Brown to the *Los Angeles Times* on the November 4 mayoral voting where Brown

clearly felt that Tom Ammiano should have been the "progressive" candidate to face the moderate-to-liberal Gavin Newsom. "They [the progressives] started eating their young," Brown said of the fragmented progressive left. "They found themselves with three or four applicants to their throne, where it clearly should have been Ammiano alone. They [the left] resented Gavin so much they made him their whipping boy on the board which only empowered Newsom more as a centrist."

And how was your week? ▼

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# Playing with fire

by Jane Warner

**D**iamond Street Senior Center, November 22, 2:30 a.m.: A man who was sitting on the steps of the senior center was approached by a group of young men, one of whom asked him for money. The man declined and the suspect became angry, demanding the man's cigarette.

"This is the only one I have," the man replied.

"Bitch, I told you to give me your cigarette, and you ain't getting it back," the suspect stated.

Fearing for his safety, the man held out the cigarette, stating, "Take a drag," then walked away. The suspect threatened, "Bitch, I'll fuck you up," and threw a beer bottle, hitting the man on the back of the neck.

The group of suspects, described as African American, between the ages of 18-21 years old, started to laugh as they walked southbound on Diamond Street toward 19th. The 23-year-old victim was not seriously injured.

#### Crime of passion

300 block of Eureka, November 21, 2:50 p.m.: A private investigator called police after tracking the whereabouts of a man wanted in

connection with stealing a dog. The investigator told officers that he was hired by a woman whose dog had been stolen three days ago from her car in the Marina Safeway. Through leads, the investigator acquired a photo of the suspect and told officers the alleged dog-napper was sitting in a parked black Mercedes halfway up the 300 block of Eureka. Officers responded to that location and found the suspect reclining in the seat of the Mercedes with the dog in his lap. Officers ordered him out of the car and took custody of the dog, which appeared to be in good health. When asked why he had taken the animal, the 49-year-old suspect replied, "The dog loves me." The man was taken to Mission Station and booked for possession of stolen property.

#### Subversive panhandling

Home Restaurant, 2100 Market Street, November 19, 6:00 p.m.: A man dressed in a business suit entered the restaurant and struck up a conversation with the manager, telling him he had just flown into town and was supposed to meet his

new boss from Skyline Reality for dinner. The man told the manager he was going to make a call, and left the restaurant. About 30 minutes later, the manager received a phone call from a man who stated he was looking for one of his employees who had just flown into town. The manager told him the employee had left the restaurant. The man on the phone asked the manager if he would lend the employee cab fare to the hotel, and he would be in later to pay him back. A short time later, the man in the suit returned to the restaurant, and the manager informed him that his boss had called and asked him to loan him cab fare. The manager gave the man \$10, and the man politely thanked him and reassured him his boss would be in later to reimburse him. As the evening wore on, however, nobody ever showed up to pay back the debt. ▼

**The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.**

## New lesbian undersheriff makes history

by Zak Szymanski

**S**an Francisco law enforcement saw a historic advancement of a lesbian among its ranks with the announcement that Sheriff Michael Hennessey had appointed Jan Dempsey to the position of undersheriff.

As undersheriff, Dempsey becomes the highest-ranking lesbian law enforcement officer in the history of the city. She is now the Sheriff Department's second in command, and has assumed responsibility for the 20th largest jail system in the United States. Dempsey's additional duties include managing labor relations with more than 850 deputy sheriffs.

"Jan Dempsey is an incisive, effective manager whose intelligence and compassion have made jails safer for people who live and work in them," said a statement



Undersheriff Jan Dempsey

San Francisco public safety community."

Dempsey, a San Francisco native, joined the department in 1977, achieving the rank of lieutenant within five years. In 1983, she became the nation's first female training manager of a major law enforcement agency. As a recognized expert on AIDS and communicable disease transmission within correctional facilities, Dempsey is also known for her production of the first training video for officers on AIDS-related issues, and for her role in developing the California Department of Health Service's strategic response to HIV in jails.

Prior to her appointment as undersheriff, Dempsey was the department's chief deputy of the custody division and chief deputy of administration and court services. Dempsey began serving in her new position on Monday, November 24. ▼

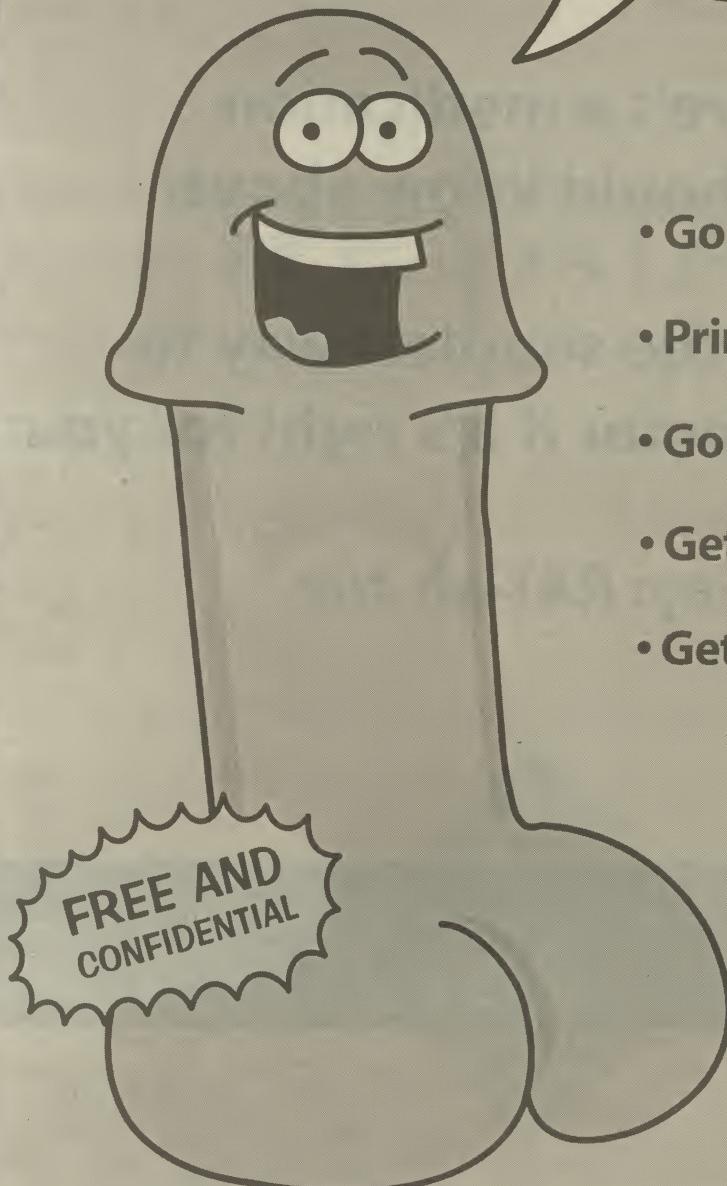
## Protesting Cirque du Soleil



Rick Gerhardt

**S**upporters of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, and the Stop AIDS Project demonstrate outside Cirque du Soleil's Alegria show in the parking lot of Pacific Bell Park Thursday, November 20. The activists are upset that the circus fired Matthew Cusick from one of its Las Vegas shows because he has HIV. Cirque du Soleil maintains Cusick's termination was due to safety concerns. The matter is being investigated by the Las Vegas office of the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and last week, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission launched an inquiry since the circus is performing in the city.

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# Bay Area observes World AIDS Day

by Zak Szymanski

**M**ore than 20 years have passed since the first cases of AIDS were reported, but the disease in many ways remains just as politicized and shattering as it was when it first emerged. Worldwide, 5 million new cases of HIV were reported for 2002, while it is estimated that 3.1 million people died of AIDS last year alone.

In the United States, according to new data to be released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention later this week, HIV/AIDS diagnoses increased 5.1 percent from 1999 to 2002, with a 17 percent rise in new HIV cases among gay and bisexual men.

About 850,000 to 950,000 Americans are HIV-positive, more than ever before, and an estimated 40,000 Americans become infected each year. The CDC also notes that less than half of adults ages 18-64 have ever been tested for HIV, and only 28 percent have been tested within the past 12 months. Forty percent of people who test positive for HIV will be diagnosed with full-blown AIDS within one year.

Treatments, prevention, funding, and even grief have all changed with the times, but for the lives lost and the new infections that occur daily, there is still World AIDS Day, held each year to honor those who have fought HIV/AIDS on all fronts.

World AIDS Day is officially on Monday, December 1, but events across the Bay Area will be held over the span of several days. Activists, artists, loved ones, and politicians will gather together to renew their commitment to each

other and the world at large.

On Sunday, Nov. 30, at 3 p.m., community advocates will present an advance screening of *Pills, Profits, and Protest*, a documentary about global AIDS treatment activism. The screening takes place at Oakland's Parkway Theater, 1834 Park Boulevard, and an \$8 donation benefits HealthGAP, ACT UP/East Bay and the Action Life Film Collective. Music will be performed by Machingura, and a panel discussion features the film director Anne-Christine d'Adesky, Priority Africa Network's Nunu Kidane, and John Iversen of HealthGAP and ACT UP/East Bay. For more information visit [www.pillsprofitsprotest.org](http://www.pillsprofitsprotest.org) or call (510) 841-4339.

**The Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco** — on the front lines of the epidemic since it first ravaged the city — will host three World AIDS Day worship services and events, including two to begin the week on Sunday, November 30 and Monday, December 1.

On November 30 at 7 p.m., the worship service will include a dedication of a hand-sewn quilt panel to honor hundreds of MCC family members and friends connected to the epidemic; singing by the multiracial freedom-inspired choir Vukani Mawethu; and a presentation by the San Francisco Department of Public Health on AIDS vaccine trials.

Also on Sunday, **Glide Memorial United Methodist Church** will observe World AIDS Day at its 9 and 11 a.m. services. The church is located at 330 Ellis Street.

MCC will also offer free anonymous HIV testing on Monday, December 1 in conjunction with DPH; the oral test will be ad-

ministered from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Later that evening, MCC-SF's Q-Sangha Buddhist community will host the AIDS support group and parishioners from Most Holy Redeemer in a 7 p.m. service entitled, "Mindfulness, Compassion, and Service: An Interfaith Gathering on World AIDS Day in the Castro."

And on Saturday, December 6, *The Art of Living Time*, a new documentary by director Sirpa Nelson, will be shown at MCC-SF. The 30-minute film chronicles the experience of San Franciscan Lori Ayers as she struggles with AIDS. Ayers will host a forum before the film, which will be followed by discussion and a reception. Tickets are available at the door and are \$35 for the film, forum, and reception, and \$20 for the film and forum; proceeds will benefit the MCC Community Foundation's HIV Legacy Fund and be used to provide support services for people with HIV/AIDS. The event starts at 7 p.m.

All MCC-SF events take place at 150 Eureka Street, between 18th and 19th streets. For more information call (415)863-4434.

As is tradition, the **National AIDS Memorial Grove** in Golden Gate Park will host a ceremony in the grove's meadow featuring a memorial service, music, and an awards presentation. New this year will be an interactive community activity that invites those in attendance to place names or inspirational passages on leaf-like objects that will be hung on an abstract tree shape in the grove.

The grove's event is December 1 at 11:30 a.m. and includes singing by Jacqui Naylor. Paul Miller of the Stop AIDS Project will receive the Community Service Award for his prevention activism. The event typically attracts more than 250 people and seeks to "honor lives lost and also give people some sense of hope and renewal, which is what the grove is about anyway," said National AIDS Memorial Grove Executive Director Rick Pavich. "While we remember people who are gone we are also honoring those who are still around and in the fight."

More information is available at [www.aidsmemorial.org](http://www.aidsmemorial.org).

Also on December 1 is "Life-Support2," at the **San Francisco LGBT Community Center**, 1800 Market Street, from 6-9 p.m. The

event, presented by Artists Against AIDS, features artists from San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City, including performances by Spencer Day (of *Star Search* fame); Hayley & The Vibe; Kitra; and others. Featured art includes works by Michiko Stehrenberger of New York; Hugh Shurley; Herb Ritts; and Keith Haring. Tickets are \$10 and available at [www.artistsagainstaids.com](http://www.artistsagainstaids.com).

Additional events at **USF** include "A night of Artistic Reflection" on December 2 at 6 p.m., featuring dance and poetic expression; an AIDS organization resource fair on December 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., featuring volunteer information and educational materials; and "Living with HIV," a panel discussion on December 3 at 6 p.m. focusing on the life experiences of people with HIV/AIDS. All USF events are at the McLaren Center and are free of charge; visit [www.usfca.edu/shep/wad.htm](http://www.usfca.edu/shep/wad.htm) for more information.

On Tuesday, December 2, HealthGAP and ACT UP/East Bay present "Think Globally, Eat Locally," a dining-out fundraiser at Unicorn Pan Asian Cuisine, 2533 Telegraph Avenue, in Berkeley. Diners who eat at the restaurant from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5-10 p.m. will see 25 percent of their check go to local AIDS efforts. Reservations are strongly suggested; call (510) 841-8098 or visit [www.unicorndinining.com](http://www.unicorndinining.com) for more information.

As the week ends, San Francisco's **AIDS Emergency Fund** hosts its annual Every Penny Counts Day in Justin Herman Plaza on Thursday, December 4. The event is the culmination of AEF's year-round coin drive and features representatives from several organizations, schools, and corporations — including the main sponsor Wells Fargo — all of whom will assist in counting the money collected from various coin jars throughout the Bay Area. Student activities include a fun house and discounted access to the Kristy Yamaguchi Ice Skating Rink. Since 1987, AEF's Every Penny Counts has raised more than \$3 million, all of which goes directly to people living with HIV/AIDS. Last year's Every Penny Counts Day donations totaled more than \$55,000, weighing in at over two tons of coins. ▼

Weigle. Tickets are \$10 and benefit UCSF's AIDS research projects.

Information on additional events at **SFSU** can be obtained by calling (415)338-7339 or visiting [www.sfsu.edu/~aidsinfo/](http://www.sfsu.edu/~aidsinfo/).

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Information on World AIDS Day events across the globe can be found at [www.worldaidsday.org](http://www.worldaidsday.org).

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## Hats off to GRGR West!



Jane Philomen Orlitzky

**M**embers of Gay Rights Grass Roots West distributed \$60,000 to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the Stonewall Project November 20. The donations, which will be split equally between the two organizations, represent proceeds from this year's "Real Bad" party that was held following the Folsom Street Fair. Pictured from left are: GRGR West's Tyrone Smith, Supervisor Bevan Dufty, GLAAD's Gwen Wheatley, Jeff Soukup, Stonewall's Michael Siever, Noah Breyer, and Tom Lloyd.

# AIDS survivors express mixed feelings on upcoming TV dramas

by Matthew S. Bajko

This Sunday night marks the first of three consecutive weekends where AIDS will have a starring role in two movies airing on different cable channels.

First up is the controversial *The Reagans* miniseries on Showtime, which will air at 8 p.m. November 30. After conservative, die-hard fans of former President Ronald Reagan learned about details of the script, which is said to vilify the actor-turned-politician and his wife, CBS pulled the plug on airing it during the sweeps this month and pawned it off to parent company Viacom's cable station.

The outrage over the miniseries, according to press accounts, was partly sparked by the depiction of a heartless Reagan when it came to people dying from AIDS during the 1980s. While the AIDS community still is angered by Reagan's refusal to focus on AIDS until the end of his term, conservatives have tried to portray him as compassionate and concerned about the then-mysterious disease afflicting gay men.

The dispute over the miniseries has overshadowed HBO's premiere of Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning play, *Angels in America*. The six-hour movie will be shown in two three-hour parts on December 7 and 14 at 8 p.m. Ironically, the movie version of the play also paints Reagan in a negative light yet has failed to garner the same outrage from conservatives as CBS' project.

While opinions are still boiling over about the portrayal of Reagan, the two television events have also brought forth a wide array of emotions and memories of that time for people living with AIDS. Over the past two weeks the *Bay Area Reporter* spoke with several gay men about their views on the controversy and having to look back on a painful part of their lives.

Their feelings ran the gamut from indifference to anger to sadness and to happiness at still being alive after being told for so long their having acquired HIV was a death sentence.

While most of the men said they had no desire to watch the *Reagan* miniseries, Heinz Voss not only expressed dismay that the drama had been bumped off CBS but anger at not being able to watch it even on cable.

"I am more upset that CBS pulled back on screening it. I am very upset about that because that way those Republicans who complained about the miniseries had it their way," said Voss, 41, who has been HIV-positive since 1987. "I am, like, at the very bottom of the economy so once it went over to cable TV I pretty much didn't care anymore. I know I won't see it."

While some detractors have said the show is in poor taste since Reagan is still alive and suffering from Alzheimer's disease, Voss disagrees.

"I tell you the truth. Do I feel this series is inappropriate simply because Ronald Reagan is still alive? No, absolutely not," he said. "Do I like to be reminded of this part of my life? Absolutely, yes. Be-



HBO's *Angels in America* was previewed recently at the Castro Theatre. From left: David Castro, of HBO; actor James Cromwell; Cary Brokaw, executive producer; and Frameline's Michael Lumpkin.

cause only in dealing with it can I come to terms with what has happened back then."

Voss came to the United States from West Germany in January 1987. Three months later he learned the United States would begin requiring all immigrants to take an HIV test that October. So he decided that spring to get a confidential test done. He was positive.

In September of that year he married a female friend at a ceremony in Lake Tahoe, ensuring he would be able to remain in the country. In 1994, he finally became a citizen.

Voss, who is now divorced and single, said he was looking forward to seeing *The Reagans* because "It is about me. I arrived here during Reagan's administration and I started to make this my home country during his administration. So this is history that I have lived."

In preparing to discuss his history and reaction to the television shows, Voss dug through his old files and paperwork to refresh his memory of dates and facts long forgotten.

"To be honest with you I was moved to tears at times in recognizing my history, in recognizing the people around me and many of them have made the transition to the other side already," he said. "HIV, AIDS didn't start out to be a disease that you could live with. When I came here in 1987, I was 24. The AIDS epidemic was in full swing in San Francisco."

In 1984 Jon Sebastian learned he was HIV-positive. Now 41, he said he has no desire to watch any movie focused on Reagan. But he said he cannot wait to see *Angels*, which he first saw performed in San Francisco in 1994, a decade after living with the disease.

He said more so than people his age, he hopes the younger generation of gay men tune in to see the movie. He hopes the HBO production will help people address AIDS once again.

"Nobody sees anything anymore, especially on the streets. You missed everything. It was horrible," he said. "It needs to be brought to the forefront again. People think they can pop a pill and get over it."

Just as his first experience of seeing the play was painful, he said he expects watching it again nearly 20 years after being diagnosed will not be any easier. ▼

"When it first came out it was at a little theatre. It was too hard, a very difficult thing to see," he said. "It was intense the first time. It is going to be the same way, pretty much."

Mark Misrok, who works at Positive Resource Center, said he remembers seeing the play twice. He said having the movie version of the play shown now is important, especially at a time when funding for AIDS programs is being cut domestically and remains a serious concern globally. Plus, he said, it is a tribute to those who have already been lost.

"It honors their reality, to actually bring attention to this history, to remember and not to lose the lessons that were learned or should have been learned," he said. "The folks who have survived are struggling to survive with HIV. They do so against astounding challenges and barriers, including indifference, callous judgment, and callousness. And that is the link of similarity to the Reagan years for me."

Comparing that time to today, he said, "The priorities are moving elsewhere. People are falling through the cracks and it's a long fall."

A college student at the time Reagan was in the White House, Martin Pollack said he never liked the president.

"At the time I didn't think he was that bright," said Pollack, who is now 40 and has been HIV-positive for 16 years.

This Sunday he said he will not be watching *The Reagans*.

"I think they made it too sensationalistic. Ronald Reagan is probably a nice guy who you want to have dinner with, who probably truly wasn't a racist or homophobe. But he delegated power to a lot of people who were racist, who were homophobic, who put in policies that hurt people and that is a problem."

He said he is eagerly anticipating the premiere of *Angels*, having seen the Broadway production. And while AIDS is a central driving force behind the action of the play, Pollack said the overriding themes of the work should speak to anyone, HIV-positive or -negative.

"*Angels in America* isn't about AIDS. You can say it's about Jews, gays, and Mormons. What it is about is people who struggle toward recognition and just living," he said. "That is why it is so brilliant."

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# America adjusts to idea of gay marriage

by Bob Roehr

**T**he Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court decision on marriage rights for gays continues to reverberate throughout that state and the nation. And the tone has been surprisingly positive for the GLBT community.

A Boston Globe/WBZ-TV poll of 400 people showed that 50 percent agreed with the decision and 38 percent opposed it. A similar poll taken in April had found 50 percent support for gay marriage and 44 percent opposed.

A parallel poll conducted by the Boston Herald and published on Sunday, November 23, shows similar numbers: 49 percent back legalizing gay marriage while 38 percent opposed it.

The Globe poll showed even stronger opposition (53 percent) to amending the state constitution to prohibit same-sex marriage and weaker support (36 percent) for doing so.

The demographics of the responses mirrored those seen in national polls, with younger people and women more supportive of gays while older people and men were more likely to hold negative views. Nationally, however, the majority of those responding to a Pew poll were opposed to gay marriage.

Massachusetts Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly, a Democrat, claimed to see some wiggle room in the court's decision. He said the Legislature could enact civil unions, a step short of marriage,

and still be in compliance with the decision. It was an opinion shared by Republican Governor Mitt Romney.

The legal establishment responded immediately and forcefully. On November 22 the Massachusetts Bar Association, the Boston Bar Association, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts, and a former state attorney general disagreed.

"I just don't see any room in the opinion for the interpretation that the governor and attorney general espouse," said Richard C. Van Nostrand, president of the Massachusetts Bar Association.

"Any proposal for anything less than marriage sends the message that gay families are second-class citizens in the eyes of the law," said Renee M. Landers, president of the Boston Bar Association.

A fitting counterpoint came from that paragon of family values, Lyle Menendez, in prison for life for murdering his parents. On November 20, in a service conducted over the telephone, he married Rebecca Sneed. Conjugal visits are not allowed for lifers, so the marriage will not be consummated.

President George W. Bush reiterated his belief that marriage is between a man and a woman. But he continued to defer going that further step to embrace a constitutional amendment being proposed by some on the far right.

"It's time to consider what actions we need to take to safeguard traditional marriage – including the possibility of a constitutional

amendment," Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee told the *Desert Morning News*. He stopped short of endorsing that route, however. He said passing an amendment "is easier said than done."

The major Democratic candidates for president wasted no time denouncing discrimination against gays, but they just as quickly dismissed the court's remedy for that discrimination and affirmed their belief in marriage as being between a man and a woman.

Slate's chief political correspondent William Saletan, writing in that online journal, described the Democrats this way: "Faster than you can say 'family values,' the major Democratic candidates for president are running away from the Massachusetts Supreme Court's nullification of the state's ban on gay marriage. While pleading for tolerance, they're falling over themselves to repudiate gay marriage."

Front-runner Howard Dean even managed to entirely avoid using the word "marriage" in his press release on the subject, even while touting his signing of a civil unions bill in Vermont when he was governor.

"The Democrats have done an appallingly bad job of running round in circles on this," gay playwright Tony Kushner told the *New York Times*. "I think they should say, 'Listen: there's the marriage you have in church, and there's the marriage you have in City Hall with a license, and those laws should gov-

I will be buried."

"The conservative course is not to banish gay people from making such commitments. It is to expect they make such commitments. We shouldn't just allow gay marriage. We should insist on gay marriage. We should regard it as scandalous that two people could claim to love each other and not want to sanctify their love with marriage and fidelity."

Curmudgeon George W. Will opined that both sides of the issue were exaggerating the impact of the decision. He opposed amending the constitution on the ABC Sunday political program *This Week*.

"Now along come gay couples to rescue marriage from social and economic irrelevance, casting a queer eye on a straight institution. They seek it for pecuniary reasons – issues such as estate taxes etc. – but also because they seem to be among the last romantic," wrote liberal columnist Richard Cohen in the *Washington Post*.

"The odd thing about the opposition to gay marriage is that if the opponents were not so blinded by bigotry and fear, they would see that gay men and lesbians provide the last, best argument for marriage: love and commitment," he wrote.



# Senate gives Clark third star

by Bob Roehr

**T**he general in charge of Fort Campbell, Kentucky where Private First Class Barry Winchell was murdered in an antigay assault in 1999 has been promoted to three stars and command of the Fifth Army. The Senate confirmed the promotion of Robert T. Clark late on November 18, some 14 months after the nomination was first made.

Two senators expressed opposition to the promotion from the floor of the Senate, while four others had comments expressing their objections entered into the record.

"It seems clear that if General Clark had exercised his responsibility to deal with the serious anti-

gay harassment that was prevalent at Fort Campbell during his 17 months of command leading up to the murder of Private Winchell, the murder would probably not have occurred," said Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts).

"Even more serious, however, was General Clark's performance at Fort Campbell in the days, weeks, and months following the murder.... Instead of dealing directly with the problem of anti-gay harassment, General Clark chose to deny that any problem existed."

Kennedy compared that with the response of commanding General John Keane when racist soldiers murdered two African American civilians at Fort Bragg. "General Keane offered very strong public statements against

racism, and he implemented sensitivity training on the base. General Clark did none of this."

He also discussed how another commander was held accountable for sexual harassment at the Air Force Academy. "Earlier this year, LTG John Dallager, the academy commander from 2002 to 2003, lost his third star and retired as a major general because the secretary of the Air Force determined he 'did not exercise the degree of leadership in this situation that we expect of our commanders.'

Senator Mark Dayton (D-Minnesota) asked, "What kind of message [is promotion] sending" to gay and lesbian soldier in the military? "How are we ever going to change what is going on in these situations if no one is held ac-

countable, if there is no consequence for not doing that a commander should do - what in some instances they are required by law to do?"

In his remarks, Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-New Jersey) recounted President Harry Truman's phrase, "The buck stops here." Apparently, the buck did not stop with General Clark. Instead of addressing the problem of homophobia at Fort Campbell, General Clark ignored it.

"General Clark even delayed meeting with Private Winchell's family - despite their repeated entreaties - for almost four years after his murder. I find this particularly inexplicable and inexcusable."

"Military promotions are usually very simple to consider, and

are rarely troublesome or controversial," noted Senator Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii). This was not the case with Clark. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Akaka said he spent considerable time reviewing the record and "I remain concerned about his lack of what I believe to be leadership qualities that are necessary for today's military leaders."

C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, which led the fight to deny Clark his promotion, was "disappointed" though not surprised by the confirmation. He took solace in the fact that, "For the first time in history, senators have closely scrutinized an officer's record on preventing antigay harassment." ▼

## Syphilis

◀ page 1

Services. "If this rate of decline continues, maybe we will see the total number in 2004 go down."

The city's fight against syphilis is by no means over. Health officials are still predicting that by the end of 2003, the city will have diagnosed 760 cases of syphilis, a huge jump over the 500 cases seen in 2002. However, "the rate of increase we are seeing is not that rapid doubling anymore," said Klausner, who just two months ago held a press conference warning cases of syphilis among gay men were continuing to soar.

"In September, we couldn't predict that cases were going to continue to go down in September and October," Klausner told the Bay Area Reporter in an interview last week.

The news is striking, since headlines on Friday, November 21 screamed that San Francisco has the highest rate of syphilis of any major city in America. Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data for 2002 released last week showed that the city had a 127 percent increase in syphilis cases from 2001 and moved up from sixth place to first among 26 cities.

But that distinction is dubious. While the city's rate of 40.6 cases per 100,000 population places it atop the list, the actual number of reported cases of primary and secondary syphilis, 315, is lower than what Los Angeles, New York City, Detroit, and Chicago saw in 2002.

In 2002, early syphilis cases in the U.S. climbed for the second straight year, from 6,103 in 2001 to 6,862. Dr. John Douglas, director of the CDC's STD prevention, said the CDC estimates MSMs account for 40 percent of all cases of

syphilis in the United States, although he said "we don't have direct information of sexual orientation."

During a phone conference with gay media last week, Douglas said "MSM of all races and ethnicities are experiencing increases, though the rate among white men is the highest."

Dr. Ronald Valdesirri, deputy director of the CDC's HIV, STD and TB control center, said "these findings suggest unprotected sex may have increased among gay and bi men, particularly among men infected with HIV."

But Douglas also suggested the increase in 2002 could be attributed to efforts to get gay and bi men tested for syphilis.

"The increases in reported syphilis cases may be due to community-level efforts to increase screening for the disease," he said during the phone call. "It may partly signal the success of screening and educational efforts."

### Increase testing

Here in San Francisco, those same efforts are also leading to the slowing of the epidemic. Even with testing on the rise - 4,789 tests were given in the third quarter of 2003 compared to 2,595 in 1999 - early cases of syphilis are on the decline.

The number of primary syphilis cases this year dropped to 92 from 106, and secondary syphilis cases are at 193, a decrease from the 212 cases seen last year at this time. Early latent cases of syphilis have stabilized, with 174 so far this year compared to 177 in 2002.

More importantly, the number of gay and bisexual men being diagnosed with syphilis is also on the retreat. In 2002, 437 MSMs

were found to be infected with the STD. This year, 405 gay and bi men have tested positive for syphilis.

Though gay and bi men continue to attribute for nearly 95 percent of syphilis cases, they are also being commended for helping to slow the local epidemic. In a release that coincided with the CDC's report, local health officials attributed the community's awareness of the epidemic and gay men getting tested as the reason for the reversal in rising rates.

According to the release, gay and bisexual men are getting screened for syphilis at the highest rates since the summer 1999 outbreak. Klausner said less than 1 percent of gay men had a recent syphilis test in 1999, whereas now 50 percent have had a recent syphilis test.

"I would like to see it higher. Ninety percent is what I would like to see," he said.

Much of the credit for the jump in testing has been given to the city's Healthy Penis Campaign, which uses cartoons featuring penis and syphilis sore characters to stress the importance for gay men to be screened for syphilis. The admittedly goofy campaign appears to be working; data shows that men who have seen the cartoons are 80 percent more likely to have been tested for syphilis.

At Magnet, the gay men's health center in the Castro, almost 500 men have been screened for the STD since it opened in July.

"Gay men have proved that they do care about their sexual health and the health of their partners," said Magnet director Steve Gibson. "When there are a number of places that allow gay men to talk about the complexi-

ties of their lives and the decisions they make, men will come in and get tested. That's especially important for HIV-positive men who choose not to use condoms with other positive men."

Men infected with HIV continue to make up a large percentage of those testing positive for syphilis. This year, 63 percent of those people with syphilis also were HIV-positive, although that is a slight drop from 2002, when 67 percent of all syphilis cases were among HIV-positives.

"Because syphilis increases the rate of HIV transmission between two to five times, we are carefully monitoring rates of new HIV infection," said Klausner. "While efforts to increase collaboration between HIV prevention and STD control programs are under way, new and continued challenges to funding HIV prevention may hamper syphilis control efforts."

One effort which has yet to catch on is www.stdtest.org, Klausner's online testing initiative. Since being launched this summer, only 100 people have used it to get tested. Of those, four people tested positive for syphilis.

"I still think there could be more people tested. They may not realize how easy it is and that it is free," said Klausner. "They print out a slip, walk over to a Unilab and get tested. It is the fastest, easiest, cheapest way to get a syphilis test in the country."

Test results are available online in a couple days. For those who do test positive, there are instructions on where to go for treatment.

People who are at risk and want to know more about STD screening can also call a national STD hotline for more information. The number is 1-800-227-8922. ▼

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**PACIFIC HORIZON MEDICAL GROUP**

## Mayor's race

◀ page 3

"Though, it doesn't hurt."

Hair do's and don'ts have had voters wagging their tongues so much that the Newsom camp sent out a mailer which zeroed in on the candidate's coiffure. A photo of the backside of Newsom's head is encircled in red lettering by "It's not what's on the Hair..."

Open up the mailer and the piece continues "It's What's in the Head that Matters." It goes on to state "Okay, Gavin Newsom is square. And we aren't talking about his hair. But what's more important, what's on the hair or in the head?"

Apparently, what's inside Newsom's head are ways to address do-

mestic violence, protecting the environment, providing universal health care, along with ideas on myriad other issues facing the city. In an acknowledgment that one's appearance has become a focus in the race, the mailer ends with a plea for voters to "Look beyond the image - and see the substance."

In the showdown between the two men, when it comes to differentiating their stance on issues important to the gay community, the candidate's responses are practically mirror images.

On selecting a new police chief, both have made it clear it is time for new leadership of the problem-plagued department. Neither will disclose who they would choose to replace Chief Alex Fagan, who was embroiled in an

alleged cover-up of a fight involving his son before being appointed chief after Earl Sanders retired. While Newsom has said Fagan should not have been picked to lead the department, Gonzalez has said he was a good choice to fill in the vacancy until a new mayor is sworn in.

Among gay and lesbian officers, the hope is that out lesbian Mindy Pengel, a deputy chief in charge of the airport detail, is tapped as the nation's first openly gay person to run a major city's police department. While Pengel was mentioned as a leading choice by some of the other candidates running, neither Newsom nor Gonzalez have disclosed who is on their lists.

"My focus is on getting past next page ►

## OBITUARIES

**Robert (Bob) Quinn Bower**

Bowed Son, brother and friend left us November 14, 2003. Formerly of Louisville, Kentucky. Robert is survived by his loving parents William and Dorothy Bower; sister Diane Verbeke; brothers Bill, Bruce and Bryan. An informal memorial will be held at the Castro Country Club at 4058 18th Street on December 7, 2003, from noon till 6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, your donations may be sent to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

**Pat Haverstock**

Pat Haverstock, loving friend to many and mother to kitties Sonny Boy and Honey Girl, died peacefully in her sleep on November 3, 2003, after a valiant battle with melanoma. God bless you forever, Darling Girlfriend.

**James Edward Herman Jr.**

Born March 8, 1939 at Windsor, Pennsylvania. The struggle is over. Dear Friend, Rest in Peace. Our memories are of a highly intelligent, educated and cultured man with a love of opera, symphony concerts, theater, movies, gourmet food,

red wine, world travel, pussycats, Betty Boop and his partner, Stewart Holland — the pepper to James' salt for 33 years (or 34 years, depending on which one you talked to).

James graduated with a Doctorate in Educational Studies (Ph.D.) from the University of Connecticut and enjoyed a long career in teaching and administration in the Oakland Public Schools district prior to his retirement. Stewart and James have been residents of the Castro since before it was "in" to be "OUT", and have acquired an abundance of long-time friends as they reveled in the Gay bars, politics and social life of San Francisco.

James traveled the world on school vacations and shared journeys to many exotic locations with Stewart. They also traveled frequently to Pennsylvania to enjoy the love and warmth of their families. James is survived by his loving sister Jane, niece Laurie and nephew Tim. Friends and family will support Stewart in his loss, but nothing will replace a lifetime of togetherness. But at least there are many sweet memories from sharing so many years.

A Celebration of James' Life will be held at the Twin Peaks Tavern on December 6th at 2 p.m.

Julio is survived by his partner, Don Lobre, whose loving kindness, steadfastness, and generosity supported Julio to the end. Also por su familia: Janice, Bill, and Roseanne Frater of Santa Rosa; Albert Gomez-Vidal and George and Amy Diepa of Miami; and Michael Ferri and James Sherman of Seattle. We will hold you in our hearts, dear Julio.

Julio is survived by his partner, Don Lobre, whose loving kindness, steadfastness, and generosity supported Julio to the end. Also por su familia: Janice, Bill, and Roseanne Frater of Santa Rosa; Albert Gomez-Vidal and George and Amy Diepa of Miami; and Michael Ferri and James Sherman of Seattle. We will hold you in our hearts, dear Julio.

# Hearing outlines lesbian health needs

by Zak Szymanski

In the world of targeted health care, there are projects dedicated to women, and gay-specific efforts for men, but very few options for lesbians, bisexual women, and transgender women.

Even clinics like San Francisco's Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services that serve under-represented women have a difficult time securing funding, because "There are no financial resources for women who are not bearing children," according to Lyon-Martin Executive Director Doretha Williams-Flournoy.

As a result, clinics like Lyon-Martin must fight to survive, as most of their patients fall below the poverty line and cannot afford to pay for their care. And without such specialized clinics, sexual minorities often forgo medical care because of myths around their screening needs and fears about homophobia and improper treatment.

Williams-Flournoy and other experts in the field of lesbian health testified on the needs of what is often referred to as the "invisible population" at a hearing convened by Supervisor Bevan Dufty last Thursday, November 20.

The hearing took place before

the board's City Services Committee and was a "first step," according to Dufty, to raise awareness of specific lesbian health concerns, and to make a case for further funding of lesbian-targeted health initiatives.

After visiting the University of California, San Francisco's Lesbian Health Research Center earlier this year, Dufty said he promised to be a public partner to the institution, and held the hearing "to draw attention to the unique health concerns of lesbians, and highlight the fact that the federal government is not doing an adequate job of gathering statistics based on sexual orientation, not to mention unlawfully curtailing research affecting lesbians and gay men."

Lesbians as a medical category are a unique and diverse group that may include bisexual women, transgender, and women who partner with transgenders. One of the most prevalent myths about women who partner with women is that Pap smears are unnecessary, said Williams-Flournoy, which means, "They are walking around with serious infections or they haven't been screened for diseases like uterine cancer."

Lyon-Martin sees over 1,700 patients per year, and of those, 513 identify as lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. The number one rea-

son for visiting the clinic is to receive primary care, including Pap smears, because many lesbians are uncomfortable doing so elsewhere. Additionally, many female-to-male transgenders who do not identify as lesbians may still have biologically female anatomy, but may be even more reluctant to seek such check-ups.

Gender expression can play a role in lesbian life as well; another speaker testified about an older lesbian with early Alzheimer's who repeatedly ripped off her clothing in a mainstream care facility. Thinking the woman was exhibiting signs of her disease, staff members continuously tried to adorn her in a dress, until a lesbian friend informed them that the woman had not worn a dress since early childhood. Once dressed in pajamas with slacks, the woman remained happily clothed.

Ensuring a proper cultural environment goes a long way toward making sure women get proper treatment, echoed Williams-Flournoy, who also brought up the example of trying to make overweight lesbians adopt healthier habits.

"The images of weight loss are often presented as a way to attract men; there are no images for lesbians," said Williams-Flournoy. "And obese women can't go into

page 23 ►

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ads which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Julio Suárez



Julio was, in his own words, a "tenacious bitch" who would not let AIDS rob him of his dreams. We remember this son of Cuba for his intense focus, passion, wild humor, erotic playfulness, and occasionally, bullheaded stubbornness. Julio encouraged others with AIDS to educate themselves and take control of their

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# Buy-sexual

by Jim Provenzano

**G**oodness! War and more war, meteors over the Bay, Gay Games VII up in the air, and Mummy Dearest (a.k.a. Wacko Jacko) finally in handcuffs. Times like these call for one remedy: shopping.

This being the official start of the mass consumerism season, here's a few jocking stuffer book, video and DVD options for yourself or the sports nut on your list.

**Dieux du Stade Calendar & DVD**  
(*Stade France*, 24 euros)

Always an annual favorite, the sexy calendars put out as charity fundraisers by Stade France have stepped up their saucy oversized displays of male "beau" by going full frontal!

Oui, oui! Along with a few tasteful full monty shots in its 2004 calendar, the new DVD, also



Août, la, la! Rugger Frederic Cermeno shows a lot of Gaul in the Stade France calendar.

in glorious black and white, showcases most of the French rugby team's players in lots of sexy completely naked poses, being primped and styled (but not

fluffed) while posing nude for the calendar. A few utterly gorgeous wrestlers and Mr. France also bare all.

Screen caps of the DVD have already flooded Yahoo groups and message boards on the Internet. The DVD is Region 2 coded, and won't play on U.S. and Canadian DVD players, but will work on your computer's DVD ROM player for, er, hands-free viewing pleasure. If you're at all a fan of sexy sportsmen, this is simply the hit of the year.

Polish up your Francais, and visit [www.stade.fr](http://www.stade.fr) for a special deal: DVD, calendar, and a T-shirt for 60 euros. Or, visit [www.amazon.fr](http://www.amazon.fr). The forms are the same as the English version, and I've heard they ship within 15 days.

**Bloody Sundays** by Mike Freeman (*William Morrow*, 300 pages, \$24.95)

You can't fit Esera Tuaolo down the chimney, but for the serious football fan that loves some inside dish and self-congratulatory prose on why the sport's so great, this is it.

Expansive in its critiques of some of the felonious fellows in the NFL, Freeman, a *New York Times* writer, also exposes some of the faults of the sport, its treatment of disposable and frequently injured athletes, and some proposed remedies. He also profiles some of football's current greats: Tampa Bay coach Jon Gruden, New York Giants defensive end Michael Strahan, and running back Emmett Smith.

Gay fans can speculate on the identity of the mystery gay player interviewed in the book. "Steven Thompson" (an alias), a gay NFL player, claims there are currently "100 to 200 gay and bisexual" players in the league. Freeman spends only 18 pages on this topic, but more knowledgeable fans (moi definitely excluded) are already playing "fantasy football," in trying to guess who the player is.

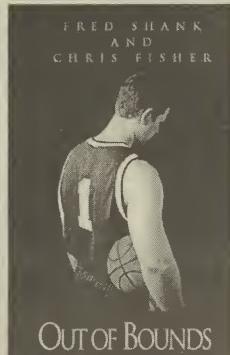
## Sports Complex

meaning in their lives. Even the sometimes-vapid world of WeHo is humanized through Boyle's clever variance in narrative style. Shy guy Dave's interior monologue in run-on lower case sentences exemplifies his repressed self-image. Film producer wannabe Mitch's trip to Washington for a friend's wed-

ding, which includes a brief meeting with the Clinton family, is told in Horatio Alger "our hero" tones.

While the team's X-laced visit to a Palm Springs White Party glorifies the circuit scene, it does offer a justified explanation as to why attendees often crowd the dance floor with their group hugs. Two sober hunks do get their poolside romantic moment.

Like the film *Broken Hearts Club*, the players are underdogs facing the big 3-0, but Boyle's book explores the rec league sports aspect, and romance and homophobia within that world, a bit more thoroughly.



OUT OF BOUNDS

The ensuing chess game of media nudges toward outing ring true to any New Yorker familiar with the always shrill and scandal-loving *New York Post*. Toward the end, the narrative lurches to a riveting pace while shifting to Walker's perspective as he struggles with his own truths.

Both *Huddle* and *Out of Bounds* are worthy additions in gay sports fiction. To authors Boyle, Shank, and Fisher, welcome to the subgenre.

## Wave Babes

(*Director Lisa Knox Nerulig*, \$19.99)

Starring, co-produced, and co-written by comedian Georgia Ragsdale, while not at all about serious surfing, this showcase for the offbeat comedian does serve up a dose of sapphic silliness.

Inspired by a weekend party following breakup with her husband, Sam (Ragsdale) and two former surfer gal pals attempt to relive their surfing days, in between low-brow party shenanigans and bed-hopping with a doofy hunk of a pool boy (Troy Casey), and an ex-girlfriend or two. Shot on video, and obviously cartoonish with its fake shark attacks, the style resembles *Pee-wee's Playhouse* meets *Sex and the City* at the Dinah Shore Classic, had Dinah ever surfed.

**Wrestling in the Hills of PA**  
(*Director Victor Rook*, DVD, \$39)

Each July for the past several years, over 100 wrestlers of all styles from around the country (and even a few from Germany) make the semi-secretive trek to a gay campground in rural Pennsylvania for a weekend of outdoor wrestling, picnic table meals, and pastoral romance.

Being pursued by a Viagra-popping Log Cabiner, and surreptitiously videotaped while wrestling on sometimes rain- and mud-trampled mats have kept me from returning to this enclave a third time. But you can enjoy it from the warmth of your own home, sort of.

This isn't a documentary, but more of a BG Wrestling-style eroticized yet clothed faray into submission-style grappling set at Hillside. Oh, those boys could make a lot of noise in the late hours! If I could ever find a soundproof tent, I'd return to Hillside. For now, voyeurs without such a hardy nature can take a peek.

**Outside the Lines: The World of the Gay Athlete**  
(*ESPN Sports VHS*, \$49.95)

If you're feeling lavish, and didn't tape the ESPN special when it aired, you could pay retail for this 2000 special about "homosexuals in athletics." The acclaimed series still rings a bit lurid in tone to me, but it includes interviews with Billy Bean, David Kopay, and my favorite real-life high school gay teen jock hero, Greg Congden.

## I feel used!

Most of these items (except the Stade France stuff) can be purchased or special-ordered at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street.

You can also get a previously read copy of *PINS*, my first novel, about gay wrestlers, on Amazon.com for as little as \$6, or *Monkey Suits*, which is still doing fine at retail prices, thank you very much. Both are also at A Different Light. For more info, visit [www.myrmidude.com](http://www.myrmidude.com).

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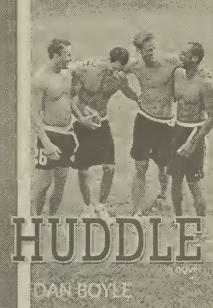
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**Huddle**, a novel by Dan Boyle  
(Southern Tier Editions, Harrington Park Press, 244 pages, \$16.95)

While you're holding your breath waiting for those pros to come out, why not read about some real league guys who are out?

Trying to resist the cute shirtless models on the book cover, I nevertheless found author Dan Boyle's debut novel to be engaging, touching, and quite realistic in its depiction of the intertwining lives of nine gay West Hollywood men who tumble around on the fields each Saturday to play rival teams. Boyle balances flag football action with chapters that follow each of the team members' lives. They search for love, sex, drugs, cocktails, or some sense of

The story follows *Village Voice* writer Reese Gibbons, who meets Walker after having barely known him in college. Through a train ride to Philadelphia, a night chastely sharing a hotel room (darn!), and their growing friendship in New York, Gibbons struggles to tune his gaydar along the rumors about the handsome basketball star on the rise.

Struggling with his pro-outing conscience as a journalist, and his nosy effete friends, Gibbons falls for the hooper, and does eventually have an affair (score!). He finds a few compatriots among Walker's friends, and a few homophobic enemies in the stands at a game.

## ALRP marks 20 years of service

Kristin Chambers, left, a former executive director of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, was pleased to accept the Clint Hockenberry Award at the agency's reception marking its 20th anniversary November 13 at the Limn Gallery. At right is current Executive Director Bill Hirsh. Irwin Keller, another former executive director, also received the award. John Lynch received the Attorney of the Year Award. Guy Kornblum and Associates received the Firm of the Year Award, and the Bar Association of San Francisco was recognized with the Community Partners Award. ARLP provides free and low-cost legal services to people living with HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area. For more information, visit [www.alrp.org](http://www.alrp.org).



Steve Underhill

## Center Cafe

◀ page 19

uled on Constabileo and Howells because "they had the best business plan and the best marketing plan" said Lynch, who expects to have the lease signed on December 14, after he returns from a 10-day vacation in Cancun.

Both the couple and center officials hope to have the cafe opened by late February or early March, depending on construction. The cafe will have the same hours as the center, which is currently open from noon to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays.

Plans for the cafe space call for a couch lounge area, tables that will spill out onto the sidewalk and the center's lobby, and an awning over the entrance.

During construction, "we will move the front desk out over more toward the front doors," said Lynch. "The cafe entrance will be through the main entrance. The awning will be on the inside to give it visibility in the lobby."

Along with coffee drinks, the cafe will serve sandwiches, salads, and soups. The couple also wants

to program poetry and book readings as well as provide performance space for local artists.

"One of the things we wanted to do was to provide a destination space inside the center," said Constabileo. "We are supplying a place where community can happen."

For Lynch, it is another feather in his cap since taking on the job and vowing to turn the center's fortunes around. In addition to the cafe, he has successfully worked with city officials to both create an economic development initiative focused on the gay community and provide transitional housing for a queer youth program forced out of the Eureka Valley Recreation Center as that building undergoes a two-year renovation.

"It's been great," he said of having the youth take over a bottom floor space in the Victorian side of the center. "It's great energy. It certainly makes the bottom floor lively."

With youth now calling the center home, Lynch is working with the city's Department of Children and Family Services to find funding to hire staff to help with the youth program. The center has already been given \$75,000

from the mayor's office to jump-start the economic development program, which Lynch said should be up and running by January.

The center has also sold 1,000 out of 2,100 tickets to a special fundraising performance of the Disney musical *The Lion King*, which opens in February. This week the classical music station KDFC 102.1 FM signed on to be a media sponsor for the event.

"We are very happy with how the early sales are going," said Lynch, who said people interested in purchasing tickets need only stop by the center, which is located at 1800 Market Street.

Even more importantly the center is seeing a turnaround in its private donations. Recently, Levi Strauss gave \$50,000 to the building, bringing the total foundation gifts the center has received since October to \$100,000.

"It is improving. The first thing going well are foundations, corporate grants, and government giving," said Lynch. "Times are hard for us but I think we are making the turn. Individual donations have not gone up substantially yet. We are working hard to try to make this a community center that the community wants."

## Castro trees

◀ page 4

tunity for the neighborhood and I really hope that we can get all potential sites planted," said Perez. "Planting as many sites as possible will improve the aesthetics of the neighborhood, which will ultimately improve business."

Regarding the trees for the commercial area, Perez recommends the palm, saying that "it will not obscure signage, it's a fast grower, it has no leaf litter, and it will be aesthetically stunning." Weiss, however, disapproves of the palm on aesthetic grounds, and said that other property owners don't approve of cherry trees.

"Some merchants complained that the existing cherry trees blew blossoms into their stores – and

leaves during fall – causing them to have to sweep more frequently," he said.

Given the disagreements, Perez predicts the merchants may choose to plant more than one species.

Regardless of the tree planted, supporters contend the benefits will be great.

"[Having trees] not only increases the property value, but increases people's desire to come and shop here," said Weiss. "Trees will make the Castro a more desirable destination."

Serina said he was unaware about the upcoming decision on which trees to plant until told by a reporter. With his group not meeting in December, he wasn't sure if the city would wait on making a final determination until January when officials could meet with EVPA members.

"I will have the person on the board responsible for parks and greenery contact DPW and ask them to come talk to us," said Serina. But he added, "I don't want to delay the tree planting. We need the trees on Castro Street. There aren't enough trees there."

Other potential improvements for the area, as part of the Castro Renaissance, include painting light poles and trash bins, redoing neighborhood bulletin boards, and new landscaping at Harvey Milk Plaza.

"This is just one piece of a larger project," according to Perez.

To contact Perez for information or comments on the project, call (415) 554-6930. ▶

**Assistant editor Matthew S. Bjork contributed to this report.**

## Lesbian health

◀ page 21

24-Hour Fitness and make the same type of commitment that other people can, because they are stigmatized within those facilities."

Hypertension and high cholesterol associated with lifestyle habits are other common reasons LBT people visit Lyon-Martin. And many lesbian women also visit the clinic for HIV and STD testing, as they make their living in sex work, or engage in intravenous drug use.

"We don't often think of les-

bians and HIV concerns," said Williams-Flournoy, "but we find that in our clinic, it's very common."

Duffy summarized the hearing as a sort of "Lesbian Health 101" that will lead to further hearings and discussions, with the entire diversity of the LBT community invited to participate.

Duffy has also pledged, he said, to fight for funding for Lyon-Martin and for UCSF's LHRC, which was launched a few years ago to "enhance clinical practice and inform policy about the health care needs of and delivery of services to lesbians, bisexual women, and

transgendered individuals," according to its founders. LHRC has already embarked on research projects, and its Web site at [www.lesbianhealthinfo.org](http://www.lesbianhealthinfo.org) serves as a "potluck" for providers and patients looking for the latest data.

In order to help direct donors to the need for lesbian health funding, said Duffy, he will point them to the taped hearing, which is available under the City Services Committee link at [www.sfgov.org](http://www.sfgov.org) and is viewable with RealPlayer. Those interested in joining Duffy's dialogue and/or participating in the next hearing in early 2004 should call (415) 554-6968. ▶

## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270588-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Cloud 9 Smoke Shop, 400 Broadway San Francisco, CA 94113. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Caroline Mai. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/09/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 03-541043

In the Matter of the Application of Zhi Xi Liang for Change of Name. The application of Zhi Xi Liang for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Zhi Xi Liang has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Vincent Leung. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 27th day of January 2004 at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

**NOV. 13, 20, 27, DEC. 4, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0271249-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Far West Funghi, 1 Ferry Building, San Francisco, CA 94111. This business is conducted by an husband and wife, signed John Del Sante Garrone and Toby Logen Garrone. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 09/09/86. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/05/2003.

**NOV. 13, 20, 27, DEC. 4, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0271236-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Figoni's Coffee & Tea, 1352 Grant Ave., San Francisco, CA 94133. This business is conducted by a limited liability company, Romio, LLC (California). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/05/2003.

**NOV. 13, 20, 27, DEC. 4, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0271567-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Treasure Island Mini Mart & Deli, Building #363, Ninth Street, Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA 94130. This business is conducted by an individual, signed George Vazhappally. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/19/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/19/2003.

**NOV. 27, DEC. 4, 11, 18, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0271557-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Conscious Chiropractic and Acupuncture, Conscious Chiropractic, 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 205 San Francisco, CA 94104. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Victoria Reyzelman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/19/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/19/2003.

**NOV. 27, DEC. 4, 11, 18, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0271557-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: ICHATTERS.COM, 205 Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Jeffrey M. Glover. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/18/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/18/2003.

**NOV. 27, DEC. 4, 11, 18, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270827-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Cicil's 101 Spear Street B-5 San Francisco, CA 94105. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Justin Matamoros. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/20/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270805-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pro Gay Jobs II 2358 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed David Bach. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/16/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/20/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270789-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: NPI Investors 479 Fair Oaks #4 San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by a husband and wife, signed Rene Schaeble. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/20/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/21/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270790-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Wealth Watchers 479 Fair Oaks #4 San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by a Husband and wife, signed James K Lewis. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/20/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/21/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270853-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Curves for Women 1874 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94102. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company, signed Ellen Bucchianeri, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/22/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/21/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270853-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Curves for Women 1874 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94102. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company, signed Ellen Bucchianeri, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/22/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/21/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE A-0270853-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Curves for Women 1874 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94102. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company, signed Ellen Bucchianeri, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/22/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 10/21/2003.

**NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003**

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## CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICES

**PROPERTY TAX -- FIRST INSTALLMENT DUE**  
Treasurer Susan Leal reminds all San Francisco property owners that the first installment of the Secured Property Tax for 2003-2004 must be paid by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2003.

†  
Bills were mailed to all San Francisco property owners on or before November 1st. If you own property in San Francisco County and you do not receive your bill by November 10th, please call Taxpayer Assistance at (415) 554-4400 to have one sent to you, visit the City Payment Center in City Hall Room 140, or look up and print your bill online at [www.cityservices.sfgov.org](http://www.cityservices.sfgov.org).

**VOLUNTARY ARTS CONTRIBUTION FUND**

Property owners can support the arts through the City's unique Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund (VACF). It's easy to make a difference for San Francisco's struggling arts groups by using the coupon in the homeowner's tax bill when making the property tax payment due on December 10, 2003. Administered by Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the VACF provides support for urgently needed equipment or capital improvements, including safety hardware, wheelchair ramps, special lighting and fireproofing. 100% of all donations go directly to the arts groups that need them most. For more information, call (415) 554-6710 or visit the web site at <http://sfgrfa.org>.

**SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Free or low-cost health care, (800) 300-9950. If you or someone you know needs immunizations, check-ups, dental care, birth control, pregnancy testing, or prenatal care, call us. We are here to help women, teens, and children find free or low-cost health care. The San Francisco Department of Public Health provides referrals to clinics, doctors, and dentists in San Francisco. Our English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin speaking staff are here to take your call, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

**WIC Program**

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition education, food vouchers, and breastfeeding support for pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children younger than five. Vouchers are picked up at a WIC site on a monthly/bi-monthly basis and may be exchanged for milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, juice, peanut butter/beans, and infant formulas in most grocery stores. All WIC services are free of charge. For more information, please call (415) 575-5788.

**SAN FRANCISCO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (SFLACo)**

SFLACo is scheduled to hold a public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2003, in the Legislative Chamber, Room 250, City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place on the Draft Report on the Electric Financial Feasibility Study. Written comments on the Draft Report will be accepted until December 5, 2003.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY****PARKING METER REPAIRER SUPERVISOR I (\$54,054 - \$65,702)**

The City and County of San Francisco is currently accepting applications for class 7243 Parking Meter Repairer Supervisor I. Requires three (3) years of verifiable experience performing parking meter maintenance and repair work, AND possession of a valid drivers license. Visit [www.sfgov.org/dhr](http://www.sfgov.org/dhr) for more details or pick up application materials through December 12 at the Department of Human Resources, 44 Gough Street, San Francisco. Closes Friday, December 12, 2003.

**STATEMENT FILE A-0270642-00**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bebeboha 659 Ashbury Street San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Daniel C. McRacken. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/14/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/13/2003.

**NOV. 6,13,20,27,2003****STATEMENT FILE A-0270642-00**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bears of San Francisco, BOBF, Internatinal Bear Rendezvous, IBR, Mr. IBR Bear, Contest>Title, Mr. IBR Grizzly Bear Contest>Title, Mr. IBR Daddie Bear Contest>Title, Mr. IBR Bear Cub Contest>Title, 584 Castro San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Darwin Bebo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04/07/1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/14/2003.

**NOV. 6,13,20,27,2003****NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE**

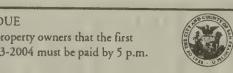
To whom it may concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is Gonzalez Antonio. The Applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at 1760 Polk St., San Francisco, Ca 94109. Type of License applied for: 41-ON-SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

**NOV. 13,20,27,2003**

**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: ERNEST PRICCO, JILL PRICCO, AND DOES 1 TO 10, INCLUSIVE. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: NATHAN TAYLOR, AN INDIVIDUAL.**

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons is served on you to file a type-written response at this court. A letter or phone call will not protect you; your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

The name and address of the court is: Superior Court of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz Branch, 701 Ocean Street, Rm. 110, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney or plaintiff without attorney is: Stephen P. Roberts, Belsher & Becker, 412 Marsh Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 542-9900.

**NOV. 13,20,27, DEC. 4, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE A-0271329-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Larry and Cary Show, 1377 Church Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Cary M. Hersh. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/07/03. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/10/2003.

**NOV. 20,27, DEC****4,11,2003**

**STATEMENT FILE A-0271393-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Michael Bruno, 2267 Market Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Louis B. Brascia. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04/10/1982. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2003.

**NOV. 20,27, DEC****4,11,2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 MCALLISTER, SF, CA 94102-4514. NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ROBERT JOHN MARKO. PES-03-285371**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and person who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Robert John Marko. A petition for probate has been filed by John L. Westaway, III in the Superior Court of California, 400 McAllister, SF, Ca. county of San Francisco. The petition for Probate requests that John L. Westaway III be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on December 17, 2003, Probate Department, 9:00 am, Room 204, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, 400 McAllister Street, SF, CA 94102-4514. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor, or the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will expire before four months from the hearing date notice above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice Form is available from the county clerk.

Petitioner: John L. Westaway III, 90 Buena Vista Terrace, San Francisco, Ca. 94117, (415) 863-4891.  
**NOV. 27, DEC. 4, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 MCALLISTER, SF, CA 94102, AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE #CPF-03-503522**

HEATH STOYER, Petitioner, v. WHEN WILL WE RULE THE WORLD, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, a California limited liability company, and SEAN WALL, an individual, Respondents.

TO WHEN WILL WE RULE THE WORLD, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AND SEAN WALL: YOU ARE ORDERED TO appear in Department 302 of this court, located at 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, Ca. on January 13, 2004, at 9:30 am, then and there to show cause of who you have any, why the petition of HEATH STOYER for dissolution of WHEN WILL WE RULE THE WORLD, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, and designation of HEATH STOYER as the member to wind up the affairs of the LLC should not be granted.

This order together with a copy of the petition on file herein and any declarations filed in support of the petition shall be served on SEAN WALL in the same manner as service of summons at least 30 days prior to the date of hearing, or as otherwise specified in an order allowing publication pursuant to CCP §415.50. Dated Nov. 4, 2003, Ronald Evans Quidachay, Judge of the Superior Court.

**NOV. 13,20,27, DEC. 4, 2003****STATEMENT FILE A-0271519-00**

The following person(s) are doing business as: RoadTestReview.com 4518 18th Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Phil Ruth. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/20/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/18/2003.

**NOV. 20,27, DEC****4,11,2003****STATEMENT FILE A-0271068-00**

The following person(s) are doing business as: American Board of Public Safety Medicine 534 Spruce San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Myron H. Marshall. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/29/2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/29/2003.

**NOV. 20,27, DEC****4,11,2003****STATEMENT FILE A-0271354-00**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Silken Skins 335 Polk Street San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Tan T. Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/12/2003.

**NOV. 20,27, DEC****4,11,2003****NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: ERNEST PRICCO, JILL PRICCO, AND DOES 1 TO 10, INCLUSIVE. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: NATHAN TAYLOR, AN INDIVIDUAL.**

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons is served on you to file a type-written response at this court. A letter or phone call will not protect you; your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case.

If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

The name and address of the court is: Superior Court of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz Branch, 701 Ocean Street, Rm. 110, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney or plaintiff without attorney is: Stephen P. Roberts, Belsher & Becker, 412 Marsh Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 542-9900.

**NOV. 13,20,27, DEC. 4, 2003**

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When: Saturday, Nov. 29th

Time: 9-1

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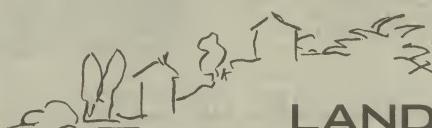
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**Holiday gay fare at NCTC and Rhino**  
There's camp aplenty in the 'Crawfords' and the Kinsey Sicks' 'Oy Vey' crowds.

page 30

**Maria Callas in a box**  
Gay opera lovers adore the diva's EMI gold mine.

page 35



**Faux queen wins it!**  
Fauxnique takes the Miss Trannyshack title.

page 39



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 33 • No. 48 • 27 November 2003

## Doing dorm time

Showtime's 'Freshmen Diaries'

by David Lamble

I want to lose my virginity, right now, as a matter of the fact." A young black woman, at a college dorm party, is staring down a doe-eyed, baby-faced white-boy freshman, who looks like he might take a bite out of the gourmet pasta box he's holding. Later in the dorm swimming pool, Hannah coos: "I wish I knew you before."

Neil: "You mean when I was still definitively straight?"

Hannah: "Yeah."

Alone in his room, Neil confesses to his camera: "I kinda have a crush on Hannah, which is a whole other basket of crap." Later Neil confides to an interviewer: "It would be so much easier if I could just have a relationship with a girl. I tried that in high school and it just doesn't work. [For me] it's all about Matthew McConaughey holding the bingo naked."

This Saturday, November 29, Showtime will reveal how things turned out for Neil and eleven of his classmates — picked from 10,000 entering freshmen at the sprawling University of Texas at Austin campus — as the cable network gives a marathon dose of its verite series *Freshmen Diaries*.

As with their earlier series, *American High*, the producers of *Freshmen Diaries* give each of their twelve subjects a camera to record their most intimate reflections, allowing a crew to film them in social situations. They become characters in a novel, each with a specific inner voice. They lay open their hearts and then interact with roommates, causal friends and potential bedmates.

In the opening episodes, several come off as vulnerable and terribly needy.

page 37 ►



Luis thinks sex education should focus more on assholes.



## Faster than a speeding bullet

From comic books to the Silver Screen at the Cartoon Art Museum

by Sura Wood

The British novelist John le Carre once observed that the process of turning a novel into a movie was like reducing an ox to a bouillon cube. Although comic books and cartoon strips do not have the heft of a full-length novel — prose and the word-balloon of comic art are worlds apart — lots can happen, not all of it good, in the transition to the screen. Think *Daredevil*, with Ben Affleck in that red cat suit.

*Lights, Camera, ACTION!*, a new exhibit at the Cartoon Art Museum, looks at the uneven history of comics-to-movies; showcasing artifacts, memorabilia, storyboards and movie posters from more than 28 films, such as *Dick Tracy*, *Blondie*, *Pop-*

*eye*, *X-Men*, and *The Hulk*, as well as comic art from the books, strips and graphic novels that spawned them.

The imaginative film adaptation of Harvey Pekar's *American Splendor*, which chronicled the misadventures of its clinically depressed antihero, deftly integrated cartoon imagery to blur the boundaries between reality and the main character's legend in his own mind. Pekar, like Seinfeld, mines the banal, absurd minutiae of existence, albeit with more anxiety and a less lucrative retirement package. Over the last 27 years, text for Pekar's stories has been illustrated by underground comix icon Robert Crumb and other collaborators whose original artwork is on display.

In the 1970s, Superman leapt from the pages of comic books to moviehouses to

page 37 ►

## THEATRE

# Merrily the old gals sing!

'Christmas with the Crawfords' at the Rhino

by Richard Dodds

**H**ow can you not warm to a show where *gloria in excelsis Deo* comes out as "excessive Doris Day-o." Yes, children, *Christmas with the Crawfords* has come home for the holidays, a show that is San Francisco's answer to the holiday spectacular at Radio City Music Hall.

True, we don't have the Rockettes, but they don't have a drag queen named Hedda Lettuce recreating Joan Crawford's hoofing from *Dancing Lady*. Or Bette Davis in her Baby Jane Hudson guise croaking out "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town."

The show, which imagines Christmas Eve 1944 at the Crawford manse, was born as an annual San Francisco attraction a dozen years ago. Absent from the local scene since 1998, it has returned on Theatre Rhino's season as a co-production with Artfull Circle Theatre.

Created by Richard Winchester and written by Mark Sargent, the 90-minute comedy has a built-in device that allows easy adaptation to the talents at hand. As proud Joan and her programmed children do a live radio remote from their Brentwood living room, a stream of celebrities looking for Gary Cooper's house keeps barging in. Seeing the microphone, they can't resist offering a song or two.

Mae West, Shirley Temple, and Katharine Hepburn have been guests in previous editions, and this outing adds Hattie McDaniel to a mix that also includes Hedda Hopper, Carmen Miranda, Gloria Swanson, Ethel Merman, and Judy Garland. Not surprisingly, the humor can be hit and miss, but Donna Drake's fast-paced production, which contains a surprising amount of choreography, keeps spirits high until an awkward conclusion.

The NY-based Hedda Lettuce, the program tells us, has "emerged as the premiere drag comedianne/singer in the country." Hy-

perbole or not, Hedda does a nifty job of creating Crawford as both larger-than-life gargoyle and frightened fading star who is in constant battle with daughter Christina. Jeff Valentine has the right spunk as the strong-willed Christina, while David Bicha spends most of his time comically cowering as younger brother Christopher.

Matthew Martin shows up hilariously as Bette Davis/Baby Jane, and has some good moments as Judy Garland (though Connie Champagne is sorely missed in these moments). Trauma Flintstone, after a quick visit as one of the Andrews Sisters, spends her time on stage as the heavily emoting Gloria Swanson.

Mark Sargent gives off a polished brass as Ethel Merman, and while Nikki Star works hard to find a comic key to Hattie McDaniel, the character could use some more thought. Mark Enea is

this production's standard-issue Carmen Miranda, and Drew Todd largely misses the clownish persona of gossip columnist Hedda Hooper.

Picking on Joan Crawford is hardly the newest game in town. But while *Mommie Dearest* – the book and the movie – are more than 20 years old, the opening-night audience anticipated many of Joan's famous lines.

A *New York Times* critic who reviewed the show in its off-Broadway run last year stated that viewing the movie is "mandatory" before seeing the show. San Francisco audiences probably don't need a refresher course in Crawford 101. ▼

*Christmas with the Crawfords* will run through Jan. 3 at Theatre Rhino. Tickets are \$15 - \$25. Call 861-5079 or go to [therhino.org](http://therhino.org).



Billy Douglas

Hedda Lettuce and Jeff Valentine: gargoyle Joan and spunky Christina

## Good tidings for Jews Kinsey Sicks' 'Oy Vey in a Manger' at NCTC



Chris Dilley, Kevin Smith Kirkwood, Ben Schatz and Irwin Keller

by Richard Dodds

**T**he Kinsey Sicks can be so clever with parody lyrics, so sharp with social satire, and so inviting in their a cappella harmonizing that you have to wonder why they still rely so much on the most obvious sorts of gross-out humor. If you're going to make a joke about Mother Theresa, shouldn't it be rooted in something a bit more incisive than a game of "bobbing for butt hairs"?

*Oy Vey in a Manger* is the title of the dragapella quartet's new "holiday" show at the New Conservatory Theatre Center, and its title is more than just another of the groan-inducing puns that are so liberally strewn over its two hours. Reflecting the makeup of the group, two Jews and two Gentiles, the show scores many of its

best quips when addressing the cultural tensions that can arise during "the most wonderful time of the year."

The first line of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," for example, becomes "Jews better watch out." And when one of the Jewish members is implored to sing along on another tune, she says, "Jews don't sing Christmas carols. We just write 'em." As for "The Dreidel Song," it now begins, "I had a little facial, I made it out of clay."

The Kinsey Sicks are Chris Dilley (Trampolina), Irwin Keller (Winnie), Kevin Smith Kirkwood (Trixie), and primary lyricist Ben Schatz (Rachel). Each gets some solo time, but it's the elaborate harmonies orchestrated by Dilley and Keller that are the main attraction. The group wears headsets mikes, and the sources of the in-

page 34 ►

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# Starting out with a bang

## 'A Little Night Music' moves to San Francisco

by Richard Dodds

**S**tanley Bahorek, now at the beginning of a performing career, thinks it likely that "character actor" will be part of his label. Playing side-kicks, he said, has already been a forte. "But then a Henrik will come along," said the young actor. "And he's so much more than two-dimensional."

Bahorek is playing the sexually repressed and sexually obsessed Henrik in *A Little Night Music*, the TheatreWorks production that has transferred from Mountain View to the Post Street Theatre in downtown SF. The Ohioan had hardly unpacked his bags after moving to New York fresh out of college when he was

repacking them after landing the role of Henrik.

"I was excited just to have the opportunity to audition for something, because that itself is a step forward," Bahorek said. "I wasn't absolutely sure I could do it. Robert Kelley, the director, worked with me at the audition, and it was a good experience."

Bahorek was happy enough to get a job at a classy operation like TheatreWorks, and his happiness turned even more gleeful when it was decided that *A Little Night Music* would be

moving to San Francisco. "When I was living out of town on my own," he said of the Mountain View run, "I was like, 'Oh, I miss New York.' And when I'd call back there, my friends were like, 'We hope you're enjoying having a job!'"

After graduating in the spring from the University of Michigan, in a theater program geared toward musical-theater in New York, most of his class of 20 also made the move East. "We're all pretty close," he said, "and I think it was an easy transition."

Bahorek, 23, is openly gay, and some of his friends don't agree with that choice. "I've definitely had first-hand experience with gay friends who were actors, and their being extremely conflicted



Backstage



Stanley Bahorek represses his obsessions in 'A Little Night Music'.

about the issue. 'Your career is at risk if you're open about your sexuality.' But for me it was just obvious. When I got to a certain point in understanding myself, and understanding myself as an actor, I knew that the two go beautifully hand in hand."

He came out to his parents two years ago, who were "surprised but not surprised," and who have always been supportive of his life and career. Bahorek left Washington, Ohio, for college already something of a showbiz veteran in the Columbus area, frequently performing in community and high school theater. At his public high school, Bahorek said, theater was outclassed by football.

Now Bahorek is young again, both by age and in terms of the experience that fellow performers bring to *A Little Night Music*. In the Sondheim-composed musical, Bahorek plays the student son of a middle-aged lawyer who has a teenage bride who can't bring herself to give up virginity. But the lawyer still loves an actress with whom he had a romance years ago, and Henrik, Bahorek's character, is smitten with his father's nubile young bride. Happy endings, of sorts, do ensue.

"It's a great show to do for a long period of time because it's so dense," Bahorek said. "The biggest blessing about this extension is that we have a show that's up and running and working, and now we have a week and a half of new rehearsals to reinvestigate things. You rarely get a chance to do that."

Bahorek, who turned down a lead in a national non-Equity tour of *Rent* to do *Night Music*, is in a happy place with all that is happening. "I went to school with the hope of getting work, so to be a working actor is wonderful," he said. "And to be doing that work in San Francisco and in a great show, doing it eight times a week, feels really good. And to work with consummate actors who have had lives and careers in theater, and to hang out with them and learn from them, invaluable."

A two-year personal relationship ended not longer after Bahorek's move to New York. Bahorek is single, and maybe missing the partnership, but there is a bright side. "I'm excited," he said, "that I'm in San Francisco and single."

For *Night Music* tickets, call 321-2900 or go to ticketmaster.com.

### 'Streetcar' crossing

Last year, UStickEm Productions offered an all-woman cast playing both the male and female characters in Sam Shepard's manly *Fool for Love*. Now Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*, with characters both fragile and ferocious, is getting the same treatment. Stanley and Blanche, and all the other characters, will be played by women.

Although the gender modification is not really a secret, illusion is being maintained by listing cast and crew only by first initials and last names. The directors are J. Grinde and M. Murphy, though they also sometimes answer to Joan and Meg.

Another switch: The production carries a warning about nudity, not a condition indicated by Williams in his original script. Performances continue through Dec. 14 in the Theatre Rhino Studio. Call 861-5079 or go to therhino.org.

### Short scenes

• *Fifty Million Frenchmen*, the 1929 musical that gave Cole Porter his first class-A Broadway success, is getting a rare revival under the aegis of 42nd Street Moon. Opening this week at the Eureka Theatre, it's the final production in Moon's 2003 season of staged concerts. Call 978-2787 or go to 42ndstmoon.org.

• *Christman by the Bay* is the title of a new CD featuring local theater and cabaret artists singing holiday tunes culled from musical theater, TV specials, Christmas standards, and the newly written title song by album producer Clark Sterling and Nolan Gasser. The official release day is Dec. 2.

• The Marsh has its own way to celebrate the holidays, by hosting Carnival of Chaos' *Night of Extreme Vaudeville*. Twisted cabaret, insane juggling, sexy contortion, and a superhero named Incontinent Man are among the promised attractions for the Dec. 5-20 run. Call 826-5750 or go to themarsh.org. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at BARstage@aol.com.

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# Not technically horror

*Marina de Van's unnerving 'In My Skin'*

by David Lamble

In *In My Skin*, Esther, a young Paris career woman, has a fateful encounter with her own body in the backyard of a townhouse where a business party is unfolding. Struck by the curiosity that killed the cat, Esther (played by de Van) stumbles over some broken glass and rusting equipment in the dark. It's not until much later in her host's bathroom that she no-

tices bloody footprints in the shag carpet and realizes she has a nasty gash in her right leg.

While most of us would immediately seek medical attention, Esther instead goes out for a social drink, confessing to the young doctor she finally consults that it didn't seem like such a big deal. After dressing her wound the doctor advises that she may need plastic surgery since the bloody gash is certain to heal unevenly leaving an ugly scar.

While technically not in the

horror genre, *In My Skin*, like last year's French shocker, *Trouble Every Day* (from Claire Denis), explores the scary implications for a young woman who develops a morbid fascination with tearing at her own flesh. During a San Francisco appearance, de Van said she wasn't directly exploring the "cutting" phenomenon, whereby young people, particularly young women, scar themselves as way of releasing social anxieties, but clearly *In My Skin* is employing self-mutilation as a metaphor for deeper social/psychic ills.

With a considerable reputation already for her work with French sensation Francois Ozon as an actor (*See The Sea/Sitcom*) and co-writer (*Under the Sand/8 Women*), de Van pulls off the tricky job of starring in her own feature film directorial debut.

While in person de Van radiates a self-effacing modesty about the aims of her work, the camera finds more sinister meanings in the almost ghoulish intensity of the stare she can fix on a person or object of interest. If you were bent on remaking *The Bride of Frankenstein*, Maina de Van would be on a short list of actresses to see.

In Ozon's profoundly unsettling short film, *See The Sea*, de Van played a young vagabond, named Titania, who proceeds to terrorize an American woman, Sasha, who's nursing her infant child near a remote beach while awaiting the re-



All torn up, and that's the way she likes it.



Passion plays out in cutting ways in *In My Skin*.

turn of her French hubby. Without straining for effect, de Van seemingly mixed the slovenly boorishness of a low plains drifter with the dead eyes of a serial killer allowing Ozon to gradually amplify the volume of dread in this seaside *Rosemary's Baby*.

In *In My Skin* de Van's Esther's obsessive tearing at her flesh is at first almost a sexual turn-on to her impossible hunky boyfriend (Laurent Lucas), but gradually both he and her co-workers find being around Esther makes them want to scream, "Stop it!"

My filmgoing memories as a child still bare the scars of classic blood operas like Vincent Price's *House of Wax* and Christopher Lee's tour de force flowering of

evil in *Horror of Dracula*. As a kid I would know just when I needed to duck under the seat or exit for the lobby. As a critic catching *In My Skin* on video, I found myself stopping the 93-minute tape about every fifteen minutes as de Van demonstrates why the scariest thing in life is to be a prisoner in your own skin. As a director de Van pulls off two memorable scenes where Esther's orgy of self-mutilation takes on a fantastic quality. One is a complete surprise as she freaks out in the company of her boyfriend at an ATM; another builds in an almost Bunuelian manner at a formal business dinner where Esther gives a whole new meaning to the expression, "stick a fork in it." ▼

## Kinsey Sicks

◀ page 30

individual voices are often lost in the over-amplified mix.

The setup for the show is a holiday party that the foursome is planning in their apartment/stable (elaborately rendered by Nancy Mancias) somewhere in the Holy Land. It turns out that we, the audience, are the guests, and on several occasions we were pressed, a bit grudgingly on opening night, into sing-along service.

One of those occasions is on "Anal Warts," the Kinsey Sicks'

variation of "Edelweiss," and the show abounds in flirtations with taste boundaries. Such boundaries are amorphous things, but the group never errs on the side of caution. Cannibalism, bestiality, leprosy, and drug addiction are among the topics set to music, in manners ranging from inane to inspired. ▼

*Kinsey Sicks: Oy Vey in a Manger* will run through Jan. 3 at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Tickets are \$25-\$34. Call 861-8972 or go to [nctcsf.org](http://nctcsf.org).

## OPERA

# Ave Maria

## Callas on box sets

by Stephanie von Buchau

If you are gay and you love opera, you already know all about Maria Callas. And you probably own all the Greek-American diva's recordings. She has been a gold mine for EMI since they first started recording her in 1953. Since her untimely death in 1977, the soprano's studio recordings have been issued and reissued on compact disc in so many different configurations that even collectors get confused.

Then there are the fabled live "pirate" recordings, made by fanatics who sit in the balcony, surrounded by coughers and rustlers, holding a slender microphone between their legs (hence the sobriquet "penis tapes") to capture the diva in full cry. From these dubious sources, we've all heard the Rome *Norma* she walked out of halfway through, the repeated "sextet" from *Lucia* at the Berlin Opera and infamous high E-flat in the Mexico City *Aida*.

Several years ago, EMI had a brainstorm. Why let the "pirates" make and sell inferior live Callas recordings when they (EMI) "owned" her rights? So they decided to find the best possible sources (sometimes even from radio) and to issue these live performances commercially in handsome Prussian blue boxes, with full notes, libretti, appreciations, photos and the most cleaned-up sound they could arrange. Chief among these many treasures are the 1955 Berlin *Lucia di Lammermoor*, conducted by Herbert von Karajan; and from La Scala, *La Sonnambula* (1955), conducted by Leonard Bernstein, and *Poliuto* (1960), with Franco Corelli.

Now we can add to that select list the two latest Callas "pirate" exhumations to appear on EMI, close to the first and last performances of her documented career: the aforementioned 1951 Mexico City *Aida* (and yes, the high E-flat at the end of the Triumphal Scene will knock your socks off), and the 1964 *Tosca* from Covent Garden in which the diva was in far superior voice to most of her performances in that period. (She sang her last staged operas the following year.) In fact, I'll go out on a limb and say that I prefer this *Tosca* to the 1953 stu-

dio set conducted by Victor da Sabata that has often been called the greatest-ever opera recording.

The Covent Garden *Tosca* is conducted by Carlo Felice Cillario, no da Sabata but still damned exciting. True, there is an ensemble scramble when Mario (Renato Cioni) is dragged out of Scarpia's chambers, yet that is one of Puccini's greatest below-the-belt moments, so why should it sound like the Vicar's tea party? Callas

is in exemplary voice throughout, with dark colorations and steady high notes. Only the C in Act III is abruptly cut off; all the dramatic accents are sensational.

Tito Gobbi indulges in a lot of huffing, rasping and snarling that thrills most listeners, but leaves me cold; and if Scarpia doesn't turn you on, much of the deliciousness of him chasing Tosca around the furniture in Palazzo Farnese loses its point. Cioni, on the other hand, with his Roman profile and luxuriant black curls, was as sexy as they come. His singing in London is probably too full-throated for British critics, but it is in keeping with the convincing hysteria of the performance.

**Bull's-eye**

*Aida*'s conductor, Oliviero de Fabritiis, is a marvelous lyricist, yet flexible enough to control a huge ensemble. Mario del Monaco is the Radames, a bull in a China shop, yes, but what a magnificent bull. Mexican mezzo Oralia Dominguez is the kind of Amneris we don't hear anymore, what with lithe-voiced younger women like Olga Borodina and Dolora Zajick replacing prison-warden bullhorn types like Dominguez, Stignani and Barberi. Giuseppe Taddei is a domi-

nant Amonasro; no wonder he was Karajan's favorite Italian baritone.

As for Maria, I was not familiar with this performance. I'd never even heard the high E-flat, though I'd heard about it for years. It's everything you've been led to believe; it comes out of nowhere, it is not authorized by the composer, and it drives the audience into a frenzy. This is the first *Aida* I've heard on disc in decades that forced me to re-listen to scenes and arias; it's so slam-bang exciting that at first you tend to miss nuances like the innocent sensuality of Callas' Nile Scene, the liquidity of her phrasing and the amazing delicacy with which she sings much of the time — except in the Tomb Scene where she finally decides to match del Monaco, bellow for bellow. Only the prompter is louder.

Being used to Callas in the late '50s and early '60s, on those painful occasions when the voice simply refused to obey, we may have forgotten that she once was a singer whose vocalism was classically pure and whose "acting" was not a matter of distortion or desperation, but of exquisite musical choices. Fortunately, we have this *Aida*, in surprisingly acceptable sound considering its age, to remind us. ▼



Maria Callas sets fans' hearts on fire.

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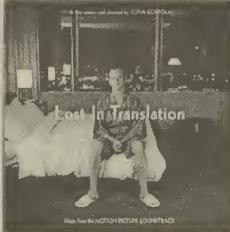
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# Songs from the Silver Screen

From 'Lost in Translation' to Barbra's movie album

by Gregg Shapiro

It's no surprise that *Lost in Translation*, the best movie of the year, would have one of the coolest soundtracks of the year to accompany it. Kevin Shields of My Bloody Valentine is the dominant presence on the *Lost in Translation* soundtrack (Emperor Norton),



providing the solo tune "City Girl" as well as the atmospheric instrumentals which made me think of the *Diva* soundtrack. Roger Joseph Manning, Jr. of Jellyfish and Imperial Drag renown and Brian Reitzell of Red Kross fame, who co-produced the soundtrack, can also be heard collaborating on the instrumentals. The ambient Death In Vegas instrumental "Girls" is also well-suited to the soundtrack, as are obscurities from French pop band Phoenix, Japanese band Happy End, French singer-songwriter Sébastien Tellier and UK electronic artist Squarepusher, which elevate the soundtrack's hipness factor. Air, who were responsible for the soundtrack to Sofia Coppola's previous film *The Virgin Suicides*, can also be heard on the track "Alone In Kyoto." Anyone who has seen the movie knows that the soundtrack wouldn't be complete without Bill Murray's karaoke rendition of Roxy Music's "More than This," which is here as

a hidden track following The Jesus & Mary Chain's "Just Like Honey."

Something is lost on *The Movie Album* (Columbia) by Barbra Streisand, but it's not in the translation. The eternal diva had the opportunity to rekindle the magic of her 1985 album of Broadway showtunes by turning her attention to the cinema, but *The Movie Album* doesn't have the same energy or sparkle. It's surprisingly dull, which is the combined result of Streisand's lackluster performance and the disappointing selection of material. What makes this an especially half-hearted effort is Streisand's track record for having recorded movie themes, both popular ("The Summer Knows" from *Summer of '42*) and lesser-known ("Ask Yourself Why" from *Swimming Pool*), from movies in which she didn't even appear.

Did we really need to hear her interpretation of "Smile," a song recorded hundreds of times by others? Any Streisand fan knows of her longtime relationship with Marilyn & Alan Bergman, which makes her selection of the weak "How Do You Keep the Music Playing?" such a shame. The most recent movie tune on the album is "Calling You" from 1988's *Bagdad Café*. Streisand's reading is admirable but overproduced, and it pales in comparison with the original Jevetta Steele version.

#### Merritt badge

The songs of Stephin Merritt and his bands The Magnetic Fields, Future Bible Heroes, and The 6ths, have been appearing on movie soundtracks for a while. For the soundtrack to *Pieces of April* (Nonesuch), an amusing feature that stars Katie Holmes, Patricia Clarkson and Oliver Platt, Merritt contributed a pair of songs by The 6ths. He drew three songs ("Epitaph for my Heart," "I

Think I Need a New Heart," and the jaunty "The Luckiest Guy on the Lower East Side") from The Magnetic Fields' acclaimed 1999 album *69 Love Songs*. The real find on this soundtrack are the five previously unreleased songs. See the movie, buy the soundtrack.

Marie Isham's distinctive trumpet-playing, heard on movie soundtracks for nearly 20 years is the centerpiece of *The Cooler* soundtrack

(Commodore/Koch). Featuring vocals by Diana Krall, Joey Fatone, Bobby Caldwell, and Paul Sorvino, Isham's score hums and glows like a cool blue neon sign.

Soundtrack reissues continue to be the trend. Cy Coleman wrote the music for *Sweet Charity: Motion Picture Soundtrack* (Decca), the musical based on Fellini's *Nights of Cabiria* which opened on Broadway in the mid-'60s. Shortly

after its Broadway run, Bob Fosse made his movie directing debut with the movie version of the musical. Shirley MacLaine played taxi-dancer-with-heart-of-gold Charity and got the chance to sing such classics as "Big Spender," "If My Friends Could See Me Now," and "There's Gotta Be Something Better than This." As Big Daddy, the late Sammy Davis, Jr. sang the page 42 ►

# Tortured star

Towering career of Montgomery Clift

by Tavo Amador

**M**ontgomery Clift (1920-66) was the first "new breed" post-World War II Hollywood star. Unlike James Dean, eternally frozen in youth, or Marlon Brando, honored for legendary longevity, Clift died in middle age, yet his influence on both was enormous. Handsome, sensitive, and virile, his best performances have a haunted quality, perhaps infused by tortured feelings over being homosexual. One of his finest films, 1953's *From Here to Eternity*, plays the Castro Theatre December 5-11.

Born in Omaha to wealthy parents, the family's fortunes fell with the 1929 stock market crash, and, at 14, he was working on stage. On Broadway, he appeared in, among others, *There Shall Be No Night* ('40) with the Lunts; and Thornton Wilder's *By the Skin of Our Teeth* ('42) with Tallulah Bankhead. Acclaim in Lillian Hellman's *The Searching Wind* ('44) brought movie offers, which he de-



Montgomery Clift

clined, instead starring in *You Touched Me* ('45) by Tennessee Williams and Donald Wyndham, based on the life of D.H. Lawrence. He came West for Howard Hawks' epic Western, *Red River* ('48), with John Wayne, a film filled with homoeroticism that only Clift seemed to get. Made later but released first, Fred Zinnemann's *The Search* cast him as a G.I. helping displaced children in war-ravaged Europe. His reviews were stellar, earning him Best Actor Oscar nomination, which he lost to Laurence Olivier's *Hamlet*. His notices were sensational for *River*, and, significantly, the climactic fight with Wayne ended in a draw.

He was stunning as Morris Townsend, the gigolo hoping to wed Olivia de Havilland in William Wyler's *The Heiress* ('49), but rejected William Holden's role in *Sunset Boulevard* ('50), reportedly because it resembled his own relationship with Libby Holman, a wealthy songstress 15 years his senior. Instead, he played another soldier in *The Big Lift*, before getting his most famous part, the ambitious youth finding *A Place in the Sun* ('51). Under George Stevens' direction, Clift is magnificent, obsessed by American Princess Elizabeth Taylor, abandoning the dull factory worker whom he made pregnant (Shelley Winters). The movie was a huge success with critics and public, earning him a second Best Actor nomination, but Humphrey Bogart won for *The African Queen*. Clift and the teenage Taylor became lifetime friends.

#### From 'Here'

In '53, he was a priest hearing a murder confession in Alfred Hitchcock's disappointing *I Confess*, but ended the year in the lauded and popular *From Here to Eternity*, getting another Best Actor Academy Award nomination, losing to Holden in *Stalag*.

17. David Selznick's unsuccessful *Indiscretion of an American Wife* with Jennifer Jones ('54) was a setback, and Clift refused *On the Waterfront* (which won Brando the Oscar) and *East of Eden* ('55), which made Dean a star, opting for Chekhov's *The Seagull* on Broadway, earning \$100 a week, as opposed to \$160,000 per movie. He returned opposite Taylor in *Raintree County* ('57), a plodding romance set in post-Civil War Indiana that made a mint. One night, after drinking heavily at Taylor's house, he crashed his car while driving home, saved from death by her intervention. He required considerable plastic surgery, but completed *County* and then played one of *The Young Lions* ('58), as an American infantryman in World War II, with Brando as a German soldier. It wasn't the anticipated success.

Now bailed after Taylor (but ahead of Katharine Hepburn), he was the psychiatrist in Joseph L. Mankiewicz's version of Williams' *Suddenly, Last Summer* ('59). He looked haggard and had difficulty remembering lines, but the picture was a smash. He was more animated for Elia Kazan in *Wild River* ('60). His haunted quality made his cameo in 1961's *Judgment at Nuremberg* the standout performance in the all-star cast (Spencer Tracy, Burt Lancaster, Marlene Dietrich, Judy Garland, and Maximilian Schell in an Academy Award-winning part). Clift lost the Best Supporting Oscar to George Chakiris for *West Side Story*.

A tragic aura infused his work in John Huston's *The Misfits* ('61), Clark Gable and Marilyn Monroe's final movie. Like his co-stars, Clift is superb in this muddled but touching picture written by Arthur Miller. Huston made him *Freud* ('62), but the film failed with public and reviewers, although today it's considered excellent. Plagued by substance abuse, he did nothing until *The Defector* ('66), a German movie given limited release. At Taylor's insistence — she posted her record salary as bond for his insurance — he was cast as her closeted husband in Huston's fine version of Carson McCullers' *Reflections in a Golden Eye* ('66), but died of alcoholism/heart failure before shooting began. Ironically, Brando replaced him.

Few stars were as conflicted about their sexual orientation as Clift, and that guilt was instrumental in his seeking escape in drink and drugs. Had he been born 40 years later, his life might have been happier, but his artistic legacy could not have been greater. ▶

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## Freshman Diaries

◀ Arts cover

Nicole is a very respectable young black woman who's never been kissed, who confesses that she just doesn't know how to loosen up. "I hate being by myself on Saturday nights," she says; "like tonight everybody was going with their significant other. Where am I? Lying on the floor in the middle of my dorm room talking to a camera."

Later Nicole will be downright brazen in her pursuit of a cavalier young man who would be a better choice as the lead in a remake of *American Gigolo*.

The boldest character is Luis. Always primping, Luis fecklessly cuts a bald spot into his locks, and then throws the biggest hissy fit seen on cable. Uninhibited to a fault, Luis is ruthlessly if theatrically self-critical: "Sometimes I look at myself and I'm like, 'You're such a fag!'"

In the next scene he proclaims his own unique version of sex education: "They always teach women about their vaginas; they always teach boys about their penis, right? They always exclude the anus, the asshole. They never talk about finding pleasure through the ass and that should be the primary thing because that's the one thing women and men (both) have."

Of course the late-blooming Neil, with his Midwestern reserve and fear of public displays of intimacy, and the brash Luis are on a



Josh in 'Freshmen Diaries'

collision course, a impact climaxing in a delicious boy-on-boy French kiss at a dorm party before desolving into a stormy fling.

*Freshmen Diaries*, like *Six Feet Under*, also gives us the boy who isn't gay. Nineteen-year-old Kyle is a blue-eyed, spiky red-haired mess. An aspiring painter and practicing ladies' man, Kyle has a series of drunken party flings, the most disastrous of which finds him making a pass at a co-ed who considers them to be just good friends. The scene is a bit unsettling; well short of date rape, it presents an uneasy view of a social situation crossing the line from both the female and the male perspective, letting the viewer judge whether there was any foul play.

Kyle later comes on to a roommate in a riff on the "boy was I drunk last night" syndrome.

Kyle: "Why can't a gay guy think I'm cute?"  
Cole: "Maybe you should ask one who's not your roommate."

### Virtual unreality

Unlike Survivor or MTV's *Real World*, the dramas on *Freshmen Diaries* unfold before the cameras with a shocking verisimilitude. When Neil and Luis break up during a cell phone call, we observe their defensive body language, and although we know that most flings are doomed, we feel the finality of Luis' sudden realization that "relationships require a lot of hard work," and recall the poignancy of an earlier moment, before he met up with Neil, when Luis confessed his loneliness to his dorm room camera: "I wish I could just wear a shirt that says, 'Talk to me. I'll be your friend.'"

Like *American High*, *Freshmen Diaries* gives us dimensions to the gay male/straight female bond not found on *Will and Grace*. When Neil learns that a trick has been exposed to HIV, his best female friend lets him have a good cry before facing whatever the test results may be. It's a devastating moment because we've gotten to know this kid and realize how unfair it would be if he tested positive. Later Neil shares his new resolve about the dating game in an aside to his camera. "It would be a lot easier if I was a girl because people would believe me when I say, 'I want to wait for a deeply committed relationship,' because it just sounds so gay."

## Cartoon Art

◀ Arts cover

fight for "truth, justice and the American Way." Christopher Reeve, then an unknown, beat out Robert Redford for the role. Could Spider-man be far behind? "The Spider-man movie was very true to the character, but the Superman movie is why I went into this line of work in the first place," says exhibition co-curator Andrew Farago. "Movies help remind people that the comics exist."

A reminder of how stunning the artistry of comics can be is a dramatic, Gothic rendering for a 1980s *Batman* poster, which depicts our caped hero battling the Joker atop a skyscraper adorned with giant Viking gargoyles. Batman, which is now a billion-dollar franchise, lends itself to evocative staging and mood because of its brooding and introspective central character. The poster, a standout in the CAM show, was drawn by Walter Simonson, a former geology student who planned to draw dinosaurs for a living until he found his true calling.

### Special effects

The action-adventure comics genre is ideally suited for movie adaptation; there is a built-in following, the 14-24-year-old male audience so coveted by movie studios, which makes them attractive properties. Twenty years ago, those same studios may have shied away from expensive comic-book themes because of the difficulty in translating the effects but, now, CGI has made anything possible. The real breakthrough came with Jim Cameron's *T-2's* morphing technology.

Speaking of the Terminator, *Conan the Barbarian* started out as pulp fiction for *Weird Tales* magazine in 1932 before it became a comic-book series. The 1982 movie was a launching pad for its pumped-up star, Arnold Schwarzenegger, already displaying the leadership qualities and



Spider-Man and Dr. Octopus in action at SF's Cartoon Art Museum

can-do attitude that would get him elected governor. Who knew?

Creators are often left out of the profits that films yield; and, to add insult to poverty, they are rarely invited to collaborate on the movie production. Dave Stevens, creator of *The Rocketeer*, is an exception. Stevens says that *The Rocketeer* (1991) was a natural for film. "It was a specific world set in the 1930s during the Depression, with odd-looking diners and airfields and period apparel, planes, cars and slang," recalls Stevens, who had experience doing storyboards for *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and Michael Jackson's *Thriller* music video. "Getting involved on a day-to-day basis with the production through post was, at first, a fight, because once you sign on the dotted line, they have you barred from the lot. But [director] Joe Johnston's agenda was to make a film that was faithful to the source material. That's unheard of."

The fiascoes are worthy of mention, too. Dale Messick's *Brenda Starr* was turned into a screen travesty with Brooke Shields starring as the glamorous, flame-haired girl reporter. Undaunted by the ineptitude of moviemakers, Starr continues to jump out of airplanes, wander around the tundra, cavort with

Polynesian princesses and, when she has the time, fall into the muscular arms of a dark and dangerously handsome mystery man. Ah, the life of a journalist!

It's difficult to resist taking potshots at *Howard the Duck*, a howling critical and box-office failure that may have kept George Lucas out the director's chair for more than a decade. The 1986 film, which occupies a special place in the annals of cinema, jettisoned the satire of the Marvel Comics source material, and has the dubious distinction of being one of the biggest box-office flops in history. The duck costume alone cost \$2 million, and the actor who wore it wishes to remain anonymous.

Howard, who fell to earth from a distant planet ruled by ducks with a philosophical bent, soon found himself "trapped in a world he never made," Cleveland. One doesn't need to be a duck to sympathize. Lucas and a young Tim Robbins lived to fight another day, but Howard is a duck that will live in infamy.

*Lights, Camera, ACTION!* runs through February 15, 2004 at the Cartoon Art Museum, 655 Mission St. Info: (415) 277-8666, cartoonart.org.

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# Rushing into year's end

'Tis ye merrie ol' leather season

by Mister Marcus

The end of year 2003 is rapidly coming to a close, with fundraising and leather title contests still occurring almost every weekend. November has yielded a bonanza of aspirants, male and female, to either go to the next level of competition or to stay home and do what needs to be done in one's own community. But as the excitement of the past year winds down, December looks relatively quiet on the sash rash front.

Last week, Mr. Leather Fetish Switzerland (Thomas Schoch) and Mr. DC Eagle 2004 (Jason Hendrix) were added to the IML 2004 roster and there's more to come. On the horizon looms Mr. South Plains Leather in Dallas, Mr. Los Angeles Leather to name only a few. Add the American Brotherhood title contests and the International Leather Sir/boy competitions, Ms. World and IMSL and International Mr. Bear titles and the plethora of new sashes looks unbelievable. Don't be surprised if one day soon you're at a leather event and the emcee asks all title holders to stand and the whole audience leaves their sitting position.

Food drives, toy drives, the Leather Archives & Museum, National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, Breast Cancer Research, Spanner Defense Fund and scores of other charities are earmarked for fundraising events from title holders from coast to coast. While maybe a handful of contest organizers require their winners to stage at least 1 or 2 fundraisers, this is not always the case.

After all, if you are lucky enough to win a title, there is some payback involved. Just posing and looking pretty is not enough. Mentoring, executing leadership and inspiring others to have the "right stuff" are what judges, organizers, charities, gossip pundits and just plain folk (those without titles of any kind) look for in a title holder. You wanted a title? You got it! Now do

something with it other than demanding manners and respect when you yourself don't give the same. Fortunately there are only 1 or 2 who fall into that category. Ego trips are very ugly.

## Groping okay!

Last weekend, porno actors from Raging Stallion Studios volunteered to be groped, bid upon, photographed and otherwise volunteering to help raise some \$3,000 for Under One Roof, the retail store in San Francisco that sells dazzling items that benefit AIDS charities. Former

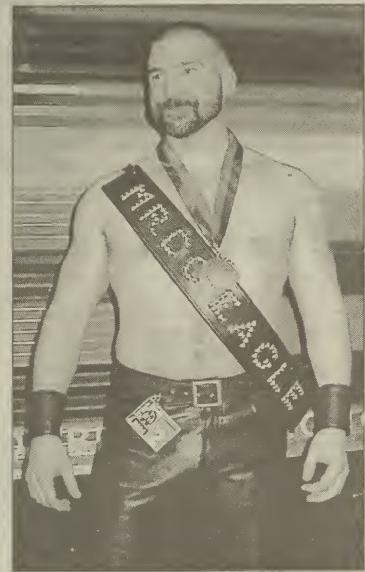
Lenny Broberg

managed to squeeze out every available dollar

from the audience at the Eagle on Saturday night and Empress Snatch, the raunchy one, entertained the wall to wall crowd.

At the Cuff Complex in Seattle, six of the SOMA Bare Chest Calendar men traveled there and helped raise some \$1,600 for the AIDS Emergency Fund, which included a \$500 donation from the Cuff management. Again, proving that sex sells, the calendar men were groped, bid upon for dinner dates, photographed and otherwise doing a great job.

Also on Saturday, the Golden Gate Guards MC celebrated their 17th Anniversary at Most Holy Redeemer Church's clubroom and dispensed almost \$3,000 to various charities. Warren Williams was announced as the new president, Lou Grosso the VP, Chris Kanda reelected Treasurer, Keith Truitt reelected Corresponding



Verne Stewart

Jason Hendrix is Mr. DC Eagle, chosen last Saturday night, November 22 in Washington, D.C. during the Eagle's 32nd anniversary celebration. He advances to compete at IML 2004 next May.

Secretary and "Hobbit" is the Road Captain. Good show!

So it's time again to give your checkbooks and plastic a work out. Merchants are all decked out in holiday decorations already and the annual spending spree is already in progress. Songs of the Season is on the agenda, the Dance Along Nutcracker and new movie releases are coming your way. Reflect on those we've lost and pick wisely for your charitable donations. And if we're lucky maybe, just maybe Newsom and/or Gonzalez will come around begging for your vote(s). I love those politicians that come scrounging to the leather community for votes and after winning, ignore us completely! They know who they are!

Have a great Thanksgiving and don't eat too much turkey! And remember, [www.LeatherPage.com](http://www.LeatherPage.com) is the only leather web site with news of leather communities around the world! ▼

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Weekend, November 27-30

Toronto Leather Man contest in Toronto all this weekend. I'll have the results for you next week.

### Friday, November 28

"Precinct Night" at the Bolt in Sacramento with a jail cell where you can put your friends/enemieslover in jail for a fee.

### Saturday, November 29

The Dungeon tour takes place tonight by bus visiting some of the city's most notorious s/m spaces, with live action at each. The 15 Association with Peter Fiske and Steve Gaynes head this effort with the regular 15 Association play party afterward. Info? Piske@peoplepc.com.

Mr. Hayes Valley Leather presents "Guilty Pleasure Music Night" at Marlene's Bar, 2000-Midnight where you can lip-synch to your favorite closeted tunes, all to benefit New Leaf.

The oldest BAR columnist (in years and tenure), Sweet Lips celebrates his 81st birthday at Club Rendez Vous from 1400-1900 tonight. Polk Street will rock, I tell you.

### Wednesday, December 3

Boy Buddies at 933 Harrison, doors open 2100 to 2300 and for more info: 777-HEAD.

### Weekend, December 5-7

Southwest Master/Slave contest at the Padlock Bar in Phoenix, Arizona. Winners go on to compete for Int'l. Master & Slave 2004.

### Saturday, December 6

Santa's Slave Auction at the Turf Club in Hayward by the ACLC. Come bid on "services" by titleholders and other folks from 1800 to 2200. For more info: [www.acleather.org](http://www.acleather.org).

### Sunday, December 7

Holiday Leather Brunch from 12:30 to 14:30 at Hotel Utah (4th & Bryant) to benefit PRC. \$20 includes brunch and a Mimosa. Entertainment and awards, silent auction.

Forum of SF Christmas party at Leticia's (7th & Harrison) from 1800-2100 by invitation or wearing your club overlay.

International Boot Black Richie Chamero boot-black beer bust at Daddy's from 1600 to 1800 to benefit the AEF and Mr. BB Travel fund.

### Thursday, December 11

Mr. SF Leather Julian Marshburn presents "Naughty or Nice!" benefit for Magnet from 2000-2300 at Daddy's. Bid on a hunky bartender you can "unwrap" for the holidays, dinner dates, raffles, auctions, fun, and action. Be there!

## DRAG SCENE

# Fauxnique's triumph!

## Faux queen wins Miss Trannyshack Pageant

by Mark Mardon  
and Adrian Roberts

**H**eklina, Pippi Lovestocking, Juanita MORE! and many others of the new San Francisco drag royalty — who all looked stunning in beautiful couture by Mr. David — showed the world (via the cameras of a VH1 TV crew and a few documentaries-in-progress) that what began as a little rag-tag crew of down-and-out trannies at The Stud in 1996 has burst its chrysalis, emerging a spectacular butterfly. The full-fledged production soared on waves of thunderous applause last Sunday night, November 23 at the cavernous but massively crowded City Nights, the grand old South of Market club at 715 Harrison Street where so much of San Francisco's vibrant queer revolution has played out — but never with more dazzle and creativity than this 8th Annual Miss Trannyshack Pageant provided.

The evening began with MC Heklina and faux queen Anita Cocktail singing a hilarious version of the B-52's hit "Love Shack," reworked here with gut-busting funny new lyrics as "The Trannyshack." It was the perfect opener to the competition, which is unique in that it's perhaps the only drag pageant in the world that doesn't discriminate on the basis of gender. Anyone can enter and win — and many agreed that there wasn't a more deserving winner this year than Fauxnique (aka Glory Wholesome), who made Trannyshack history by becoming the first faux queen (genetic girl dressed as a drag queen) to win the coveted title.

Her number, "Butterflies Are Free," was conceptually brilliant from start to finish. She began with the requisite video, documenting her emigration to the United States from the country of Faux-queistan. She then led a troupe of ballet dancers to help her slowly emerge from an all-white, hoop-skirt cocoon. At one point,



Miss Trannyshack winner Fauxnique, left, is kissed by Suppositori Spelling

dancers unraveled her as though dancing around a Maypole, eventually revealing a magnificent creature in a sheer lavender dress. The dancers effortlessly lifted her above their heads, and what ultimately emerged when they put her down stunned the audience: she grew gigantic butterfly wings that took up nearly the entire breadth of the very wide stage!

While Fauxnique's winning performance was definitely the highlight, she was by no means the sole sensation of the night, as outgoing Miss Trannyshack titleholder Suppositori Spelling put on a show worthy of her superstar status. As a solemn troupe of pall-bearers carried Spelling's black-shrouded corpse onto the stage, dozens of spectators in front of the stage held up their lighters. She emerged with nipples peeking out from a black-and-pink corset, her long black mohawk flowing grandly as she lip-synced Cyndi Lauper's stirring rendition of "Midnight Radio," the closing number from *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Near the end, she gracefully fell into the crowd, who carried her on their hands all the way to the back of the room. She couldn't have picked a more fitting number to end her spectacular reign as Miss Trannyshack.

Not to be outdone, co-presenter Juanita MORE! put on "The Booty Call Tango" with her More

Boys, the troupe of gorgeous hangers-on who date on her every whim. Decked out in a scintillating black-and-red tango outfit, she danced with the boys one by one, stroking them sensually, lifting their shirts, exposing their glistening hard abs. As the boys encircled her, she became the goddess she truly is, and the crowd went wild with adoration.

The first runner-up winner of the night was Buttlicka of Guerneville, whose hunky topless helpers in cowboy hats wheeled a pile of dirt onto the stage, in which the dirt-obsessed diva proceeded to wallow. A candid video showed gossip, mean-spirited Heklina and her snotty girls hanging out in a men's room, totally dissing Buttlicka, who then found herself crumpled on the floor between two pisoos, her heart being torn by a good spirit in one urinal, and an evil spirit in the opposite. By the end of the number, the hunks on stage were pouring buckets of dirty water over Buttlicka, and as a final gesture they plucked a handful of squirming earthworms into Buttlicka's eager mouth!

Much more could be said, but alas, space prevents a complete recounting of the wonders. Suffice to say, being there was a thrill.

Not to be outdone, co-presenter Juanita MORE! put on "The Booty Call Tango" with her More

# Watch Matt strip!

And wish me a happy 81st!

by Sweet Lips

**H**ere's hoping you all have a great Thanksgiving Day! On this special holiday, the lovely Club Rendez-Vous at 1312 Polk Street (at Bush) will be celebrating with special festivities, including a big party from 5-9 p.m. for birthday boy Matt! Come for cocktails and cavorting! Chef Dennis Tyler will be on hand to cater the affair, providing delicious delectables, and a DJ will play all of Matt's favorite tunes.

Then stick around, because at 9 p.m. Matt and other guys will compete in "Amateur Strip Night"! The winner receives a \$100 cash prize, and runners-up receive \$50 and \$25, plus all the tips their booties can shake out of the appreciative crowd! The winner is voted by the audience! Here's how it works: For every purchase you receive three tickets. Award these to your favorite

dancers at the finale of the show, and the hunk with the most tickets is hailed as "Best Amateur Stripper". Want more details? Call James at 309-CLUB.

Club RV will be open all Thanksgiving Day, with David Ryan and yours truly working from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. to provide you with liquid refreshments. Do drop in and see us!

Then on Saturday, November 29, from 2-7pm at Club R-V, it's time for everyone to come help me celebrate my 81st birthday! It would be great to see you all, so I hope you can make it down and share the moment. Chef Tyler will be on hand once again to provide excellent canapés. It will be so sweet! As always, I'll continue to be ten days older than that sweet Empress

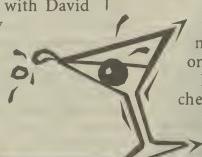
José. That race never seems to narrow!

Also open on Thanksgiving Day will be The Cinch Saloon at 1723 Polk Street, where the popular Ronnie Lynn will be pouring early-bird drinks from 6 a.m. until noon, followed by the one and only Jim.

If you haven't yet checked out the new Mix bar on 18th & Castro, do stop in on Saturday and Sunday mornings when the popular Marlow walks the plank and keeps you happy. Tell him Lips sent you!

Finally, for those of you who appreciate hot young growling action, be sure to check the Nob Hill Theatre schedule to find out when "Tiger" is performing. You'll be pleasantly surprised by this talented young man — right, Bob Golovich?!

### Cocktail Hour



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Photo (c) David Morgan

# OUT&ABOUT

## Calendare by Mark Mardon

### Atelier moves

**I**t's sad news and good news for fans and clients of Atelier Studio Gallery, the chic, savvy art space that until recently graced the Castro, and now will enchant new neighbors and visitors as the Geras Tousignant Gallery in Historic Jackson Square.

Photographer James Scott Geras and painter Daniel Tousignant, who in 1998 established Atelier Studio Gallery in the upstairs flat of a building on Upper Market Street, in the heart of the bustling Castro, were forced from the neighborhood due to a spate of lawsuits targeting businesses inaccessible to disabled persons. Though Geras says the space had a grandfather clause that supposedly protected them against such suits, he and his partner were forced to settle and abandon the premises, a move they very much regret. Geras says he and Tousignant loved bringing to the Castro a space where community groups could hold functions, and where fine art could be displayed in the clean, well-lit space they created—including a splendid back garden—in what had been a run-down apartment with a weedy back lot. Any business thinking of moving into the now empty space, Geras warned, ought to realize the space is subject to costly lawsuits.

The silver lining to the dark cloud is that the new Geras Tousignant Gallery will be opening this December just in time for the holidays.

"We will continue to represent both contemporary and classic traditional artists and offer a full range of customary and innovative works of art," say the couple. "Let us assure you that although we are relocating from the Castro, our plans are to stay firmly involved within our community—both spiritually and emotionally. As we have done over the years, we will continue to support numerous associations and charities."

The Geras Tousignant Gallery will be displaying artists that are exclusive to their studio, including the world-renowned fashion meistro Victor Arimondi, along with Matthew Frederick, multitalented photographer Geras (he does fine art photography as his calling, and "Bare Chest Calendar" shots as a hobby), and elegant painter Tousignant. The gallery will also feature a revolving new artist each month. The international and American artists the Gallery represents are on the cutting edge of their craft, whether it be through paintings, photography, sculpture fine glass, antique rugs, or 18th, 19th, & 20th-century antiques.

The Gallery is located at 437 Pacific Avenue, between Sansome Street and Montgomery Street. That puts it in the heart of the old Barbary Coast territory, in a designated Historic District where the old brick buildings accommodate a thriving arts and antiques trade. The Gallery is fully accessible to persons with disabilities, Geras says proudly. ▼

Contact the Geras Tousignant Gallery at 415-861-8216;  
[www.gtfineart.com](http://www.gtfineart.com)



Eros takes a vacation in Charles L. Mee's *Wintertime* at San Jose Repertory Theatre. See Thursday.

## Fri 28

### 'Tamala 2010' @ Castro Theatre

Opening night: *Tamala 2010: A Punk Cat In Space*, featuring a new type of animated character drawn in Bezier curves and computer graphics, transcending the boundaries of conventional Japanese animation. Imagine a mutant hybrid of Hello Kitty and Phillip K. Dick, animated in the classic 1950's TV style of Osamu Tezuka. Plot: It's the year 2010 on Cat-Earth, a planet in Cat Galaxy. On his first birthday, Tamala blasts off toward her birthplace in the constellation Orion; en route, near the small planet of Q, she hits an asteroid and falls into Q's barbarous world of endless war and terrorism between the Dog and Cat tribes. Daily: 2:00, 4:30, 7:00 & 9:15pm thru Dec. 4. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St. \$8 (\$5 senior/child & matinees). Tix: 621-6120.

**Matt Gonzalez for Mayor @ Club Galia**  
"Save Our City!" — a Matt Gonzalez for Mayor Fundraiser. Bask in local entertainment while lending support to the rapidly growing grassroots phenomenon that is the Matt Gonzalez for Mayor run-off campaign. Featuring hot dragcore bands, sizzling burlesque, hard-hitting spoken word, hip homo-hop & chunky drag kings. Starring: Frankie Tenderloin & the Rent Boy\$ (kingcore heart-throbs); Stop Looking at My Boyfriend - Lynn Breedlove & Sky (no-ho homo-hop); Acid Housewives (Trauma Flintstone, Mark Sargent, Isaac Brantner); Lipstick Conspiracy (sexy new-wave queencore); Katastrophe (sensational homo-pop); Burlesque-esque (political burlesque); Arty Fishal (SF Drag King 3); Coco Kane (performance artist); Venus Envy (1st run-

ner up SF Faux Queen 2003); Sherylyn Connell (prose stylist); Brooklynne Thomas (outspoken word); Papa Dino (hot drag king daddy). DJ Alvin a-go-go. Plus campaign volunteers, information tables and absentee ballots on hand. \$5-50, 00, 00 sliding. 8 PM. Club Galia 2565 Mission St. (at 22nd St.). Info: Galia clubline, 970-9777; [www.mattgonzalez.com](http://www.mattgonzalez.com)

**Smuin's 'The Christmas Ballet' @ Dean Lesher Center, Walnut Creek**  
Smuin Ballet, the acclaimed San Francisco dance company, presents its enduring holiday favorite, *The Christmas Ballet*, choreographed by Michael Smuin, offering a divine Yuletide affair of hip-swinging hula girls, tap-dancing Christmas trees, and a bo-a-toting "Santa Baby." In the "Classical" act, dances are set to holiday anthems; in Act II, "The Cool Christmas," dancers let loose to everything



In the mold of Burt Bacharach, the Beatles, and Beach Boy Brian Wilson: 20 year old Sonde Lerche plays Cafe Du Nord This Friday, Nov. 28. \$10, 9pm. 18+w/ID. 2170 Market St. Call 861-5016.

from Benny Goodman to Bach, Eartha Kitt to klezmer. \$41-\$50. 8pm. Also 2pm & 8pm Saturday, Nov. 29. Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek. Tix/info: 925-943-7469; [www.smuinballet.org](http://www.smuinballet.org)

## Sat 29

### 'Guys 'R Dolls' @ Glenview Performing Arts Center, Oakland

Glenview Performing Arts Center, Oakland  
In the grand tradition of the world-renowned Finocchio's, "Guys 'R Dolls'" present a "Holiday Spectacular" with a flurry of feathered boas, hairspray and rhinestones. Join emcees Brian Keith and Santa as they take you on a magical romp of fabulous production numbers, gorgeous costumes and a bevy of beauties. \$20-\$35. 3pm & 8pm Nov. 29; 3pm Nov. 30; 8pm Dec. 6; 3pm Dec. 7. Tix: 510-531-0511.

**Lisa Lisa @ Club Papi 7-Year Anniversary Party**

Latin freestyle diva Lisa Lisa gets the boys' blood flowing for Club Papi's 7-year anniversary party at Space 550. Three caliente dance floors, with The Papi Dancers for your eyecandy pleasure. Meet Papi Underwear Model David Pacheco signing autographs from 11pm-1am. First 750 people get the new "Live @ Club Papi" CD. \$20 cover. Doors open 10pm, close 4am. 550 Marneval Ave. Info: 675-9763; [www.papi-presents.com](http://www.papi-presents.com)

### Organ recital @ Most Holy Redeemer

David Dehner, master's candidate at Notre Dame du Namur in Belmont, will be performing works by Bach, Franck, Langlais, Jehan Alain and others on this beautiful church's Austin organ. Free-will offering accepted at door. 7pm. Most Holy Redeemer

Church, 100 Diamond St. Info: 863-6259 x.18.

## \$un

### World AIDS Day @ MCCSF

Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco ("A house of prayer for all people. A home for queer spirituality.") presents its official commemoration of World AIDS Day, honoring all of those who continue to struggle or have lost their lives to AIDS. At the 7pm service, "a high-energy service of worship and praise features contemporary and gospel music with choral support from MCC's Worship & Praise Team choir and band. Hear the inspiring words of Penny Nixon . . ." MCCSF will dedicate its own AIDS Quilt Panel which holds the names of scores of family and friends connected to MCC in a special way. Representatives from the Department of Public Health will be on hand after the 11am and 7pm services to talk about the AIDS vaccine trials, including the common misconception that these trials put HIV negative people at risk; the risks or complications; and what the trials accomplish.

MCCSF, 150 Eureka St. (btwn 18th & 19th). Info: 863-4434; [www.mccsf.org](http://www.mccsf.org)

### 'Pills, Profits & Protest' @ Parkway Theater, Oakland

World AIDS Day advance screening: *Pills, Profits & Protest: Voices of Global AIDS Activists*, a documentary by the Action = Life Collective, directed by Anne-Christine D'Adesky (former Editor and founder of *HIV Plus* and writer for the *IAVI Report*, *amfAR's Treatment Insider*, and *POZ magazine*). Live Zimbabwean music by Machingura. Panel discussion with the filmmakers. A benefit for HealthGAP, ACT UP East Bay, and the filmmakers. *Pills Profits Protest* examines the national and international grass roots response to an epidemic that has already overshadowed the Black Death in terms of human lives lost. What will be the global cost if we fail to treat and save 40 million people now? \$8 donation. 3pm. Parkway Theater, 1834 Park Blvd., Oakland. Info: 510-841-4339; [www.pillsprofit-protest.org](http://www.pillsprofit-protest.org)

## Mon

### World AIDS Day @ National AIDS Memorial Grove

"Tenth Annual World AIDS Day Commemoration." The Grove Volunteer Service Award will be presented to Paul Miller from the Stop AIDS Project, who developed "In Our Prime," an HIV prevention program for gay/bisexual men 45 and older. Special Musical Guest: Jacqui Naylor representing Artists Against AIDS. An interactive ceremony will invite guests to pay tribute to a loved one. Dress appropriately for the weather. Free and open to the public. 11:30am-1:30pm (program at noon). Golden Gate Park. RSV: 750-8340. Info: [www.aidsmemorial.org](http://www.aidsmemorial.org)

### Q-Sangha & Most Holy Redeemer @ MCC-SF

Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco's Q-Sangha community will commemorate World AIDS Day with the AIDS Support Group and parishioners from Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. The program, "Mind-

fulness, Compassion, and Service: An Interfaith Gathering on World AIDS Day in the Castro," takes place at 7pm. All are invited to attend.

### Mark Weigle @ St. Francis Lutheran Church

Singer/songwriter Mark Weigle (*The Truth Is; All That Matters; Out of the Loop; Different and the Same*) joins in a World AIDS Day observance and benefit concert for the UCSF AIDS Research Institute. Weigle will be performing solo acoustic as well as with a chorus. \$10. 7pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. (at Market). Info: [www.markweigle.com](http://www.markweigle.com)

### World AIDS Day @ UCSF

The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) campus will celebrate the new AIDS Research Institute (ARI) on Dec. 1, with a series of events held in conjunction with World AIDS Day, sponsored annually by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). This year's World AIDS Campaign will highlight the plight of children with HIV under the theme, "Give Children Hope in a World with AIDS." A symposium, "Accelerating Discovery and Overcoming the Virus: Science and Solutions for the Next Era of AIDS." takes place 2-5pm in Cole Hall, 513 Parnassus.

Keynote speaker Peter Piot, MD, PhD, executive director of UNAIDS and a discoverer of the Ebola virus and one of the original AIDS researchers in Africa. He will discuss SF's approach to the epidemic as a model for the global fight against AIDS. Several UCSF researchers will present the latest news in HIV/AIDS research from ARI during an hour entitled "Scientific Discoveries and Directions," moderated by Paul A. Volberding, MD, professor of medicine. Mayor Willie Brown will discuss the role of SF's prevention programs in reducing the number of new HIV cases, and the widespread availability of treatment in SF, which helps to minimize the incidence of HIV illness. Info: [www.ucsf.edu](http://www.ucsf.edu)

### Spectrum 21st Anniversary Winter Celebration @ Panama Hotel, San Rafael

Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns presents its 21st Anniversary Winter Celebration! Meet Marin's most interesting people and enjoy music by Accordionist Steve Albini, a Light Dinner Buffet, and a No Host Bar at the Panama Hotel. \$20 in advance (reservation required); \$30 at the door. 5:30 - 8pm. The Panama is located at 4 Bayview St., San Rafael. RSVP: Hannah Dorees, 415-457-1115, ext. 206 or email her at [hdoress@spectruminarin.org](mailto:hdoress@spectruminarin.org). Info: [www.spectruminarin.org](http://www.spectruminarin.org)

### 'The Play of Daniel' @ St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley

Opening night: Berkeley's Aurora Theatre Company, in collaboration with The Pacific Mozart Ensemble, presents a stirring escape from traditional holiday theatre fare with "The Play of Daniel." This 12th century liturgical gem, one of the most sophisticated dramas composed in the Middle Ages, sets the biblical story of Daniel in the lions' den to movement and music. Medieval Theatre scholar Dunbar Ogden directs this staging, along with The Pacific Mozart Ensemble Musical Director Richard Grant. Featured Dutch vocalist Henk Verhoeven and a cast of 50 per-



Robin Cornwell, Galina Alexandrova, Claudia Alfieri, Celia Fushille-Burke, Sarah Barber Wilson, Amy Seiwert, and Nicole Trerise in "Sugar Rum Cherry", part of Smuin Ballet's "The Christmas Ballet 2003" at Dean Lescher Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. See Friday.

**form "The Play of Daniel"** in Latin with subtitles. \$24 gen.; \$22 Aurora subscribers. \$15 student. 8pm Dec. 1-6. 2300 Bancroft Way (at Ellsworth), Berkeley. Tix/info: 510-843-4822; www.auroratheatre.org

#### 'Out for Matt' @ Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Queers For Matt present an all-out embrace of mayoral candidate Matt Gonzalez. An evening of mirth and merriment emceed by Peaches Christ (of "Midnight Mass" fame) and hosted by drag legend Trauma Flintstone ("Christmas with the Crawfords"), with special guests Kirk Read (*How I Learned To Snap*), soprano Julie Queen (*Wuornos*), raconteur Tom Orr (*Dirty Little Show Tunest*), NYC drag star Hedda Lettuce (straight from her nightly appearance as Joan Crawford in "Christmas with the Crawfords"), country-western dyke musicians The J. Byrd Hosch Trio, award-winning entertainer Kitten On The Keys, songbird Anita Coctail, drag artist Princess Kennedy (of the band Pepperspray) and many more! Music provided by DJ Puss-Puss. \$15-\$200 sliding donation (NOTAFLOF). Doors open at 7pm; entertainment begins 8pm 4235 19th Street (at Collingwood). Info: Michael Alterman (522-1075), Trauma Flintstone (206-0131) or Joey Cain (861-7609)

## Tue

#### 'Le fate ignoranti' (Ignorant Fairies) @ Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Screening: The Italian Cultural Institute (Istituto Italiano di Cultura) Film Series presents Verson Ozpetek's *Le fate ignoranti* (Ignorant Fairies, 2001; 105 min), starring Margherita Buy and Stefano Accorsi. Recently widowed, Antonia discovers her husband of ten years had been involved in an affair. When she tracks down the lover, she is shocked to find Michele, a handsome man whom her husband had been seeing for seven years. Yet Antonia and Michele develop a closeness of their own, and Antonia joins the motley crew of transsexuals, gays, Turkish refugees and other people who enjoy Sunday lunches together on a rooftop terrace in Rom. In Italian with English subtitles. 6:30pm, 425 Washington St. Info: 788-7142; www.sffic.org

#### 'Think Globally, Eat Locally' @ Unicorn, Berkeley

Dine out for AIDS advocacy at Unicorn Pan Asian Cuisine, a quiet new sit-down restaurant located on lively Tele-

graph Ave. near the UC Berkeley campus. A quarter of your bill goes to benefit ACT UP East Bay and HealthGAP. Dining hours: 11am-3pm & 5-10pm. Entrees range from \$5.75 to \$15.95. Unicorn Pan Asian Cuisine, 2533 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Reservations (recommended): 510-841-4339. Info: www.unicorndin-ing.com

#### 'GenderEnders' @ Cherry Bar

The second "GenderEnders" show will be building upon the momentum of last month's successful debut. Featuring award-winning writer/performer poet/intersex activist Thea Hillman and the gendermessy FTM hip-hop MC Katastrope, plus featured performers, a "community bulletin board," and a queer performance open mic. Attendees encouraged to bring announcements, music, spoken word, stand-up comedy, performance art, or any other type of performance to the event. \$4-\$7 sliding. 8:30pm. Cherry Bar: 917 Folsom St. Info: www.genderrenders.com

## Wed

#### 'Blue' for World AIDS Day @ The Center

Exhibition and Film Screening: "Blue Paintings by Rudy Lemcke and Derek Jarman's Blue, for World AIDS Day." Rudy Lemcke exhibits his "Diary Paintings: Blue (for Emily) 2003" and says:

"These blue pages of late summer represent a time of mourning and coming to terms with the tragic death of a loved one. Like the Film Blue by Derek Jarman, they record a vision of mortality."

Lemcke is a local artist whose works have been exhibited at The Whitney, The DeYoung, and beyond. He currently teaches at the SF State University Multimedia Studies Program, and is the director of online programs for QCC-TV.

Derek Jarman's film "Blue" (1993) is his last work before succumbing to AIDS. The blue screen of this movie remains plain and unchanging for the film's 72 minutes. Four actors, close friends of the director, the director himself, sound effects, and poetic music (by Simon Fisher Turner) narrate Derek Jarman's experience with the AIDS virus. Description of the virus's progress is alternated with contemplative discussions of poetry, art, and life.

Free (donations accepted). 7pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market (at Octavia), accessible by MUNI J,K,L,M,N or F, or bus lines 6,7,61,71.

**'The Fourth Wall'**

#### @ Lucie Stern Theatre, Palo Alto

Preview: TheatreWorks pre-

sents the West Coast Premiere of A.R. Gurney's revised satirical delight *The Fourth Wall*, directed by Jules Aaron. Skewering the rightward march of the nation, this satire of both art and politics uses Cole Porter songs to tell the tale of a frazzled woman who rebels against the complacency of her friends, marriage, government, and even her furniture! \$20-\$48. 8pm. Opening night: Saturday, Dec. 6. Clos- es Dec. 28. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. Tix/info: 650-903-6000; theatreworks.org

## Thu

#### 'Wintertime' @ San Jose Rep

Preview: San Jose Repertory Theatre presents the regional premiere of "Wintertime," a lyrical and outrageous comedy by Charles L. Mee, directed by Timothy Near. "Wintertime" is not plot driven, but rather it is driven by a passionate exploration of the effect that Eros has on us. A heady mix of French farce, Greek drama, musical comedy, opera and avant-garde. Jonathan brings Ariel to a secluded snowbound house to propose, only to discover that his mother is there — with her lover. Then his father shows up — with his boyfriend. Soon neighbors and strangers join them in an exuberant dance of jealousies, passions, arias and animosities. \$18-\$52. 8pm. Opening night: Friday, Dec. 8, 8pm. SJRT, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose. Tix: 408-367-7255; www.sjrep.com

#### 'Uncle Dickie's Wicked Little Christmas'

#### @ EXIT Theatre

Richard J. Bernier and Three Wise Monkeys Theatre Company present "Uncle Dickie's Wicked Little Christmas," an evening of alternative holiday one-acts, featuring the American Premiere of British playwright Anthony Neilson's *The Night Before Christmas*, directed by Ryan Montgomery. It's a blue-collar comedy of Christmas on the fringes of London society. Plus Margery Kreitman's *Holding*, about the comic plight of a desperate individual who makes a call to Suicide Prevention on Christmas Eve, and Ken Slattery's *The Christmas Gift*, directed by John Dixon, in which a truly bizarre pair, Marcus and Linda (P.A. Coo- ley and Sarah Mitchell), who have decided they can no longer tolerate friends who are not in relationships, arrange a "special gift" for their single friend Tom (W. Jay Moore) when he arrives early for their Christmas gathering. \$20 (\$15 Seniors, Students and TBA Members; Special Actors' Benefit Per-

formance Wednesday, December 10 @ 8pm w/all seats \$15). Runs Dec 4-20; Wed-Sat @ 8PM. EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy St. Tix: 776-7427; www.ticketweb.com. Info: www.threeweisemonkeys.org

#### Dance Naganuma @ SomArts

Asian American Dance Performances with the Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center presents Dance Naganuma in "Sticks & Feathers: An Evening of Beauty, Angst and Dreams," blending Asian and Western ideologies into a striking dreamscape. Original score by composers Joe Daval and Guillermo Galindo.

Dancers: Claudine Naganuma, Jose Ivan Ibarra, Freesia Palceable Huth, Matthew Holland, Sydney Howe, Molly Spiegelman and Sierra Jo Lash. \$15. 8pm Dec. 4, 5 & 6; 2pm Dec. 7. 934 Brannan St. (at 8th St.). Tix: 864-4120. Info: dancenaganuma.com

#### 'Smegma' @ Eros

"Smegma," a down-home talent show in the middle of a bathhouse. All genders, blenders and flavors adored. Hosted by Kirk Read (*How I Learned to Snap*), with Lynn Breedlove, Goddess author; Jaime Cortez of Latin Hustle; Tina D'Elia, CUAV goddess, stage presence for days; Seth Eisen and Keith Hennessy, the ultimate power performance duo; and Daphne Gottlieb, the poetess, fresh home from her "Final Girl" U.S. tour. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. Club Eros, 2051 Market Street at Church

#### 'Ba-da-Bingo' @ MCCSF

Join the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence as they celebrate the season finale of "Ba-da-Bingo!" Trannyshack's Rentteca MCs a special evening of "Porn Star Holiday Bingo" with the Men of Raging Stallion Studios live in person, plus Santa Claus and Sister Grinchetta. Your admission gets you 8 games of bingo with cash prizes totaling more than \$1,700, special gifts, a chance to win a DVD player or a personal porn star! Every player gets a new porn video! Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: www.BadaBingo.org

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## MUSIC

# Seconds, please

## A Vivid Mahler 'Resurrection'

by Tim Pfaff

In the canon of Mahler symphonies, probably none is more universally loved than the Second (the *Resurrection*). Mahler fanatics will already have favorite CD version(s) of the piece, and if they were told that a particular one was "the only valid" version, there would be insurrection rather than resurrection.

So DG was wise not to make special claims about its new CD of the work, with Gilbert Kaplan conducting the Vienna Philharmonic, on the cover. Still, the notes waste no time establishing that this is the first recording of the new critical edition of the score, which Kaplan and Renate Stark-Voit compiled from 14 sources, including, most importantly, the composer's own conducting score, containing changes he made as late as 1910 (the year before he died) and upon which wrote, "corrected and deemed to be solely valid."

This would matter little to people outside the Mahler Society, for which the edition was made, and a few musicologists if 1) the changes were not audible and 2) the performance were not so exultant. But both are, and this almost alarmingly vivid recording of the piece is a must for all Mahlerians.

Prejudice is its own punishment. I've steered clear of both live performances and the previous recording of the work by Kaplan, an investment banker who has devoted himself to this single work — mostly because this is not the behavior of a great conductor, but also because Kaplan is an investment banker. So I turn out to be the superficial one. So what? This CD proves that, without any diminution of his mania for his aesthetic *idée fixe*, he now knows the symphony like no other living conductor.

Under his baton, the Vienna Philharmonic plays as well as I have ever heard it play, and Kaplan's grasp of the Mahler idiom coaxes some of the most convincingly Mahlerian portamentos I've heard from its strings. The numerous changes in the score seem only to have focused the players' concentration, and yet they render the music without a hint of exaggeration. As but a single example, the final return of the funeral-march theme in the first movement, the score's loudest (and one of its most harrowing) moments, emerges with crushing power, yet no flaying of the sonority or any sense of a "big moment" being exploited for mere sonic thrills.

## Reality check

The shift to the lilting Ländler in the second movement could hardly make a stronger contrast, and the VPO lavishes a leavening buoyancy and transparency on it. The ensuing Scherzo (which Mahler intended to portray "Reality of life returns, and the world appears distorted and crazy") accents the disarming contrasts in the score — again, without overstating the "crazy" material. Just playing the (right) notes does the job.

Trouble comes only with the fourth movement, the orchestral song "Urlicht" from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*. The orchestra, sounding as though it is playing from a nearby Alpine peak, is transfixing. At her entrance, the mezzo soloist, Nadja Michael, performs the right timbre for the song. But, before long, her capacious vibrato — one waver shy of a trill — becomes so unwieldy it distorts the musical line. She turns this profound yearning for death into a grotesque.

The cauterizing repeat of the third movement's "scream of anguish" that begins the final movement removes the song's bitter aftertaste. The choral movement is

the work's *raison d'être* for many listeners, and Kaplan gives it its head without losing control. The music, which embraces almost absurdly wide expressive extremes, is perfectly balanced. This is where the correction of some of Mahler's tempo markings yields the greatest revelations. The dictation could be a notch clearer in the Wiener Singverein's hushed entrance on the word "Aufersteh'n," but the subsequent unfolding of this, one of the great efflorescences in music, is unstinting. Latonia Moore's purer, soaring



soprano offsets yet more warbling by Michael.

Still, while this new recording is anything but soulless, it occasionally exhibits a sonic glare like the bright colors on restored or cleaned master paintings. Touchingly, listeners who like their Mahler Second in the bad old version also get an astounding new release. Testament has released a

powerful live Mahler Second with the Berlin Philharmonic under the late Sir John Barbirolli. Recorded on June 3, 1965, it pre-dates all Herbert von Karajan performances of Mahler with "his" orchestra, but the Berliners, who loved Barbirolli, serve up this Second as if it were a house specialty.

At the heart of this monumental, spiritual interpretation is Janet Baker's profound "Urlicht," saturated with the yearning and tone that are uniquely hers. The singing is as heavenly as the light-filled other world it seeks. ▼

# The power to uplift

## New Age music out on CD

by Jason Victor Serinus

**T**he category of New Age and spiritual music is a catch-all, encompassing everything from transporting melodies to middle-of-the-road schlock saddled with syrupy synthesizers. The really good stuff is not about being deadening. Rather, it can serve as a vehicle for accessing altered states of consciousness, aligning listeners with everything from alpha states of deep relaxation to a sense of cosmic oneness.

**Crystal Bowl Healing** - Steven Halpern (Inner Peace Music) Bay Area resident Steven Halpern's name may be a household word amongst veteran New Age music aficionados, but there is nothing commonplace about this recording, which offers a potentially transformational assemblage of sounds and chants.

The disc is dominated by the haunting overtones of quartz crystal bowls. Many healers use pure quartz crystal bowls to harmonize brain hemispheres, balance the chakras, and pave the way for trance-work. Short of the real thing, this disc does a remarkable job.

Beginning with an invocation of sacred vowel sounds Halpern chanted and recorded inside the King's Chamber of the Great Pyramid in Egypt over 20 years ago, the disc's 15 selections feature the sounds of Crystal Tones classic

frosted, clear, Egyptian Blue, Aqua, 24-K Gold and "tuning-fork" bowls. Occasionally one hears the sound of Halpern's fist striking the sides of the same sarcophagus that the Ancient Egyptians employed in King's Chamber ritual ordinations.

Several tracks combine the tones of an ancient Tibetan singing bowl with modern crystal bowl healing instruments. Classic Halpern synthesizer and harmonies also insinuate their way into some selections.

**Ikon of Eros** - Sir John Tavener; Minnesota Orchestra and Chorale; Paul Goodwin, cond. (Reference Recordings) Gorgeous, mystical music with the power to entrance. Sir John Tavener, a follower of the Greek Orthodox faith, writes simple, repetitive compositions that embody the spiritual essence of prayer.

Believing that "music is liquid metaphysics," Tavener creates a potentially mesmerizing "sense of sacred space." Along with fine contributions from baritone Tim Krol (formerly of Chanticleer), strange-voiced soprano Patricia Rozario, and sweet-toned violinist Jordi Flezzanis, the chorus intones the Greek words for Transfiguration, Eros (Divine Love), Ecstasy, and the unending song of the Angels.

Slowing down (sitting in silence by candlelight would be ideal) is essential to experience Tavener's reverential universe. Unless the unending repetition of

angelic and Greek-tinged melodies gets to you (some may suspect a paucity of musical imagination rather than unending inspiration), expect to ascend.

**The Great Stupa** (Sound & Silence) Featuring music by Sting, Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Allen Ginsberg, and a host of others, these two CDs and enhanced PC video come packaged with a beautiful hardcover book filled with color photos, Buddhist teachings, and words of wisdom.

The set documents, celebrates and supports the building of The Great Stupa, the largest Tibetan shrine of its kind in the US. "The Great Stupa of Dharmakaya Which Liberates Upon Seeing" at Shambhala Mountain Center in the Rocky Mountains is an expression of the universal aspiration for peace and harmony for all beings. A complete representation of the body, speech and mind of the Buddha, the Stupa was conceived by the late Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche and built by his students. Situated 8,000 ft. above sea level and rising 108 ft. from its foundation, the shrine took 14 years to construct.

All the music deals with themes of peace, liberation and compassion. That does not mean that it is devoid of darkness. Instead it is real, human, very now, and quite wonderful. Equally suitable for coffee-table, altar, and sozializing. ▼

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## Soundtracks

◀ page 36

vintage '60s number "The Rhythm of Life." Showtunes and drag queens everywhere can now discard their well-worn vinyl copies of *Sweet Charity* for this CD.

Timed to coincide with the DVD release of the animated Disney classic *The Lion King* (Disney Records) now includes two more tracks, "The Morning Report" and a remix of "Can You Feel the Love Tonight." Five outtakes, the full version of "Dainty June and her Farmboys" and the "film version" of "Rose's Turn," are some of the enhancements made to the soundtrack from *Gypsy* (Rhino/WB).

An expert on the music of movie and television science-fiction, Neil Norman on his latest album *Sci-Fi in Hi-Fi* (Audio Fidelity) gives his renditions of the

themes from *Star Trek Encounters*, *Star Wars*, *Space 1999*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Blade Runner*, *Alien*, *Battlestar Galactica* and others.

## Road trips

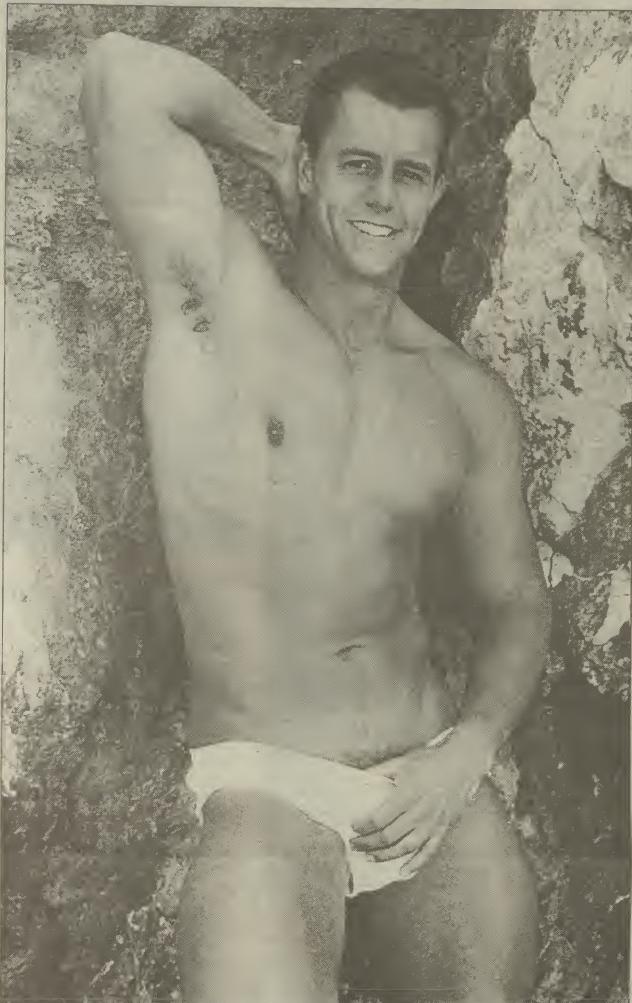
Soundtracks to PBS programs are almost always a good bet. The latest from documentary filmmaker Ken Burns is *Horatio's Drive: America's First Road Trip*, about the first transcontinental road trip taken in an automobile, by Horatio Nelson Jackson in the early 1900s. With Tom Hanks providing the voice of Jackson and tracks steeped in the bluegrass tradition, the Horatio's Drive soundtrack (Columbia/Legacy) truly is music for motoring. As part of *Martin Scorsese Presents the Blues* on PBS, the soundtracks to films by Clint Eastwood (*Piano Blues*), Wim Wenders (*The Soul of a Man*) and Charles Burnett (*Warming by the Devil's Fire*) pro-

vide the music, by both period and contemporary performers.

In 1976, Oscar-winning actress Bette Davis released *Miss Bette Davis* (DRG), now available on CD for the first time. Camp of the highest order, the album features Davis performing "They're Either Too Young or Too Old," "Life Is a Lonely Thing," "Until It's Time for You To Go," and "I've Written a Letter to Daddy." The album also includes dialogue from *All About Eve*.

In 1972, Goldie Hawn released the album *Goldie* (DRG), also now available on CD. Hawn, who sang in the Woody Allen musical *Everyone Says I Love You*, isn't the greatest singer, but she does her best on covers of songs by Dolly Parton ("My Blue Tears"), Van Morrison ("I Wanna Roo You"), Paul Stookey ("The House Song"), Bob Dylan ("I'll Be Your Baby Tonight") and Joni Mitchell ("Carey"). ▼

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TUESDAY 10/14, 9am You: Walking to level A. Me: Carrying shirt on hanger. I liked your smile and friendly conversation. Coffee? ☎ 72865

**Muni Bus 22 Fillmore**  
Sunday Nov 16. You Asian, Me Irish. Thought you were with your boyfriend. Strong Eye contact. Let's Meet. ☎ 72893

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Nice Attractive Guy Wants to date.** 45, white, HIV+, 6', 170, healthy, happy and fun. Wants to meet Top African American, Latino or Asian guys who are relationship oriented. ☎ 72879

**Santa Rosa Native**  
SWM, 42, 5'10", 170#, redhead, Navy. Enjoys drumming, talk radio, tennis seeks relationship. ☎ 72880

**Hot Older**  
Missed earlier ad by 48 yr old GLM looking for men over 60 for oral pleasures. I am 64 have nice daddy dick, stache. Pls rerun yr ad. ☎ 72886

**Muscular Italian American 46yrs Stable**, sincere, romantic. Seeks a smooth Asian to date on a regular basis. Please be reliable, sincere. No games, BS ☎ 72905

**Affectionate Seniors**  
WM, 48, 6', 165#, dk hair and eyes. I am looking for affectionate seniors who enjoy kissing, cuddling, and oral pleasures. Possible long term relationship. Lone wolves, husky, bearded, not into mainstream a plus, Smokers OK. No gay scene or lifestyle please. ☎ 72906

**Free Spaghetti**  
Win a delicious meal by answering this ad. If you are a slender, masculine guy 18 to 45. Cook is slender, masculine WM, 44, into Friendship and Naked body contact. ☎ 72907

**Bubble Butt Latin/Asian Boy**  
5'8", 140, 35, looking for others for hot time kicking it. One-on-one, couples, groups. Like all types of guys. ☎ 72894

**48 yo, In shape Handsome Man**  
Looking for LTR with same. Age, race, to p, bottom not important.. In shape gym toned body and cool attitude a must. ☎ 72895

**Mutual JO and G Play**  
I am Latin, 40yo, 5'7", 153#, HIV+. Healthy, slim muscular body, smooth round butt, husky Look. ISO masculine GWM/GLM with small size 25/40 yrs, slim, smooth, HIV+, healthy. Safe sex, 5'5" to 5'10", No drugs. Please be serious. ☎ 72896

**Seeking Friendship or More**  
GWM, 33yo, 5'10, 160#, brn hr, brn eyes, HIV+, healthy. Seeking others for dating or possible relationship. Like movies, books, cooking and fitness. Age, race unimportant. ☎ 72904

## LESBIANS

**Lonely in Reno Need a PenPal**  
Single white lesbian looking to converse with any single women with hopes of possibly something more. I enjoy camping, horses, and spooky movies. No drugs or heavy drinkers. ☎ 72904



www.stevenunderhill.com

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Mutual hot JO and Oral Play**  
ISO guys into JO and Oral. Give, take. Let's help each other shoot seismic loads with aftershocks. I'm 5'9", 190#, mature 50's golk, pierced with shaved head. This ad is honest UB2 ☎ 72881

**ISO One Great Man**  
Me: 175#, HIV+, 6'2" Top. Looking for white or Latino bottom, 35-50, for long encounters. You are adventuresome, height and weight proportionate. Call. Oakland ☎ 72882

**3 some Wanted**  
WGA AZN, 27yrs, 5'7", 140#, very cute. NotITUDE w/ nice dick seeking nice GWM?GAM couple for fun and friendship. Please be godlooking, under 35...Homes: HIV+ ☎ 72883

**Hot suck/rim in Santa Cruz Co.**  
Horny a lot? Tired of beating off? Come overnight with me (or not). Be orally serviced by wmn 48. All races welcome. Reciprocation not expected. Be 18-28, slender. Call TJ ☎ 72884

**Spank your butt**  
Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175#, seeks well-built bottom with nice round ass for over-the-knee spanking, role playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 72887

**Penisulus Male**  
43 yrs, trim, healthy, discreet, bi-curious seeks older 55+ male, female, tv, couple for fondling, oral, j.o., role play, new ideas. Likes panties. No pain. ☎ 72888

**GAM ISO GWM for safe clean fun**  
39, 5'10", slender build, clean cut, professional. Not into scene. Enjoy long foreplay, kissing, jo, oral, massage, showers, lots of body contact. Must be STD free, healthy living. ☎ 72889

**Mature Japanese Men**  
Any age 35 - 75, any weight or size, serviced by bottom bear, 43, 5'9", 220, HIV-, bearish, hairy, Am very oral (front and rear), Greek passive, anxious to please. ☎ 72890

**The Hottest Guy in Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Nasty Hot Top**  
GWM 47 masculine, hairy, construction worker, cop - likes role playing, showing off - seeks older in shape bottoms to sniff around on shorts, takes orders, suit. ☎ 72891

**Masculine straight life long pussy eater seeking WGM 70-75 to teach me art of sucking cock. Begin bare skin end covered or jo on my face. Choice is yours. ☎ 72892**

**Share Zeal for Gay Male Porn**  
Do you like DVDS, videos showing anal buttplay, and assorted sex interests. Join my search. ☎ 72903

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONALS

# BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

## MASSAGE

**HEALING MASSAGE**

NURTURING AND THERAPEUTIC  
MICHAEL CMT  
415.235.8605  
[www.home.earthlink.net/~handshealing](http://www.home.earthlink.net/~handshealing)

**Relax in my hands**  
Masculine guy 26 yo in great shape  
Swedish and Deep Tissue  
Confortable and convenient location  
Available for in & out calls.  
415.577.4376  
[www.mm-pw.com/jake](http://www.mm-pw.com/jake)

**Professional Massage**  
Manny's Meltdown  
24 yold  
Out only  
415-756-3430

**MASSAGE STUD**  
Professional Swedish/Deep Tissue  
Masculine & Muscular. 6'1" 200lbs.  
Frank, C.M.T. (415) 260-5214  
[WWW.SFTOUCH.COM](http://WWW.SFTOUCH.COM)

**SEXY ASIAN**  
\$60 Jim 269-5707  
E49

Cute, Smooth, Tender  
**26Y/O ASIAN**  
In/Out \$60  
DAVE\*567-7693 E49

Erotic nude Mas by mature in-shape  
man SF 24Hr Mark 398-2441 E50

**EBAY BEEFY MUSCLE**  
Gives good deep Swedish!  
Masc, hairy, 195, 5'11", 45, moist.  
M-F airt 5, w/OK-Rlx-Table/Oil  
In \$60/60, \$90/90 510-601-6995 E48

**BODYWORK BY ASIAN**  
Friendly, gdkgng CMT 5'6", 130,  
warm hands, sensual touch, full body,  
real massage. In/Out. 218-0128 E48

Relax Release enjoy a sensual full  
body massage by 38 CMT 75 min.  
\$50 Great hands from Stan 641-8221 E48

**FIRESIDE MASSAGE**  
Unique style therapeutic and erotic  
massage in front of a fireplace. Out  
calls available also. Johnny 505-3060 E50

**SPORTS • SWEDISH • DEEP TISSUE**  
TRIATHLETE & CMT  
415 \* 298 \* 3627

**GEOFF**  
Great Touch  
Super Friendly  
Convenient Location  
CMT  
415 863-6420

**Humanity**  
Boris  
415-424-7282

**Personal Touch**  
Therapeutic & Erotic  
Deep, Satisfying Massage  
Certified & Discreet  
Daniel 626-4192 Eves/Wknds

**FEEL THE DIFFERENCE**  
Strong, energetic and athletic. Fernando CMT (510) 325-7725. In/Out. E53

**MASSAGE BY HOT ASIAN**  
28.5'8"/145, Silky XXX Smooth  
\$80 In/100 Out, Call Hung 948-7244 E51

**CUTE MASSEUR**  
5'9" 145Lbs. 30wst fit Slim/Smooth  
Blond/Brown eyes. SF/Marin. In/Out.  
Have table. E48

**TOUCH ME ALL OVER/X-RATED RUB by Hot Nudist/Ken/346-4966/\$60**  
E48

**SANTA ROSA HIDEAWAY**  
Superb very personal massage plus  
fantasies explored by mature masseur  
in remote country setting. Also, group  
massages and Overnight and Daytime  
Spa and Massage Getaway Packages.  
Roger 707-525-1771 [www.sr-hideaway.com](http://www.sr-hideaway.com) E51

**COMPLETE FULL BODY**  
Sensual massage done in the nude by  
masculine endowed mature masseur  
at your place. Chuck • (510)388-4941 E51

**MASSAGE**  
Deep & Erotic  
ALEX  
415.652.4625  
24 hrs. in SF  
E.Bay/Peninsula - Calls OK  
till 9pm  
Out Only. Enjoy!

**EXCELLENT MASSAGE**  
415 255-0850 DREW  
IN/OUT

**CREATIVE BODYWORK**  
Empower Yourself  
Thru Supportive, Sensual, Nurturing and Healing Touch  
Jack Walder, CMT  
415) 447-2700

**STEVE FOSTER \* CMT \***  
SPECIALIZING IN DEEP BACK AND NECK WORK  
\$60 DAYS/\$80 NIGHTS AND WKNS  
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**BLOW-AWAY FULL-BODY DADDY MASSAGE LUSH SATISFYING JAS CASTRO LOC. 864-5447**

**SJ SF EB ASIAN CMT**  
VGL msc GAM, 33.5'/6'/150/6.5.  
Sensual full body acupressure &  
Shiatsu massage w/release done  
nude, Therapeutic too. In/Out.  
Call Smooth Doug 408-202-0811. E48

**SOUTH BAY MASSAGE**  
EROTIC AND RELAXING  
Sunnyvale Loc. Call for Details  
650-248-8485 ask for Daniel

Peninsula Therapeutic and Erotic  
In/Out, Full-Body TLC 650 367 7528 E51-E4

**EROTIC MASSAGE**  
Healing, sensual, loving touch  
Deep tissue, Older men welcomed.  
Hotels, 24 Hours

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**WWW.SFGAYMASSAGE.COM**

Castro Certified • Only \$45/\$65  
• WANNA MELT? •

Jim de Masseur • 415-621-4517 E49

**SEXY SOCCER PLAYER**  
Erotic nude massage masculine  
friendly handsome Latino 28yo 247/  
158 lbs in/out call Max 441 2854 E49

**TRIP TO XTASY!!! BUNS & LEGS, NOOKS & CRANNYS, MY SPECIALTY**  
Hotman 48 6'165 S&P Beard, hung  
Erotic FullBody Massage In/Out  
10am-10pm \$60-70 M/C Visa. Add  
\$5. Call Dick 415-244-8828 E48

## MASSAGE

**Brian 415-252-8126**  
[www.MassageByBrian.com](http://www.MassageByBrian.com)

**Deep Tissue  
Shiatsu  
Swedish**

**Body Electric Certified CMT**  
Private Studio in Mission/ Castro Area  
In only

**Jeffrey (415) 595-3887**

**MASSAGE**  
Deep Tissue/Therapeutic/Sensual  
Toby • 415.596.3377

**HOT DEEP & LONG**  
Erotic & therapeutic/both naked/Sexy  
Italian Hunk CMT Vester.  
190#6'4", 8"cut, Diverse body type,  
ages, colors, welcome. Travel Bay  
Area. In call \$70, Outcall \$90.  
(415) 621-4202. • Lorenzo

**EXCELLENT MASSAGE**  
Skilled/intuitive Swedish bodywork &  
steamin' hot nude erotic touch in  
warm clean studio near Dolores Park  
by tall lean sexy blond w/strong  
hands/dep, hot prostate work by  
appt/60 min=\$75/90 min=\$90  
2 hr=\$100/2.5 hr=\$125. Heron  
Saline, CHT 415/706-9740. Leave  
feelin' gooooooooo!!!!

Fremont CMT, Jim • Great Hands •  
Therapeutic/Relaxing, Mature.  
\$40/Hour • (510) 651-2217.

**VALENTE**  
Erotic massage by sexy Mexican. See  
my pics:  
[www.gaydar.co.uk/valentemx](http://www.gaydar.co.uk/valentemx)  
Cell: 415 342-1675. In/ Out.

**FULLNUDE, FULL RELEASE**  
I am a 25 year old model that has  
been in several large publications. 6'3  
216lbs Blonde hair/blue eyes, I am  
smooth with a BX6 uncut. I have a  
hard, ripped body with a face that  
could stop a freight train. When I  
walk, people stop and stare. My  
masculinity drives men and women crazy  
alike. I am a great masseur and spe-  
cialize in full nude, full release sensual  
rubdowns From "head to toe!" So  
come on in and release some tension.  
Mike • 415-505-1540.

**PALO ALTO SWEDISH**  
massage, 1 1/2 hr. \$75. 813-1334  
<http://i.am/anthony.wayne>

**AWESOME TOUCH 812-1800**  
\$60 In/90 Out. Jonathan CMT

Fit Castro Daddybear 412-0397

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For a firm & satisfying hands-on  
experience. Your place or mine in  
Petaluma • Call (707) 766-8269.

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**SACRED TOUCH**  
More than just a Massage.  
Intention! Focused Eroticism.  
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**AWESOME MASSAGE PLUS**  
release. "Good at what I do."  
Real full body massage. I am  
Sex, muscular. Nude, smooth.  
552-1561 Grove & Franklin St.

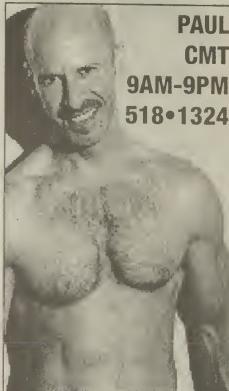
**JUST THE BEST**  
Very handsome, well-endowed strong,  
gentle and friendly CMT. 465-2662

## PERSONALS

## MASSAGE



**"Great Massage!" \***  
Enjoy a sensual San Francisco style massage and a Twin Peaks view today. Tired of soft "finger painting" when you need a strong deep muscle massage? Close to Castro Clean & Private EZ Parking in a Safe Area or take 37 Corbett Ave. Call Danny @ 647-9777  
**Excellent for Workout Recovery**  
Client comments:  
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• Strong, sensitive touch!  
• Finger painting! See the Golden Gate from the top of Twin Peaks!  
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*(Same-Sym)* Same Day Appt.OK-EZ to Reach!



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& massage therapist. Shave, trim and massage. Feel smooth, clean and relaxed. Alan CMT 510-436-3330.

**PROSTATE BLISS**  
and health+ full-body by pro. In \$60.  
989-7736. Union Square area.

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deep/strong/fullbody/CMT(408)661-7415

**YOU DESERVE  
THE BEST!**

Nude, full body, deep tissue by goodlooking, strong, muscular, 9 yrs. experience. Release now! In Only-Gary @ 305-5609 near City Hall. 30-90 minute sessions.

**HOT EURO BOY**  
Horny 23yo bottom/smooth 5'7"  
135# In/Out. 415-210-1526 Sean

Guy in East Bay to massage your cares away. • 415-823-1329 • J

**WARM HANDS/HOT HOLES**  
5'9" Ink Pierced 160, 31yo sexy college student with an edge. Kip Castro • In/Out • 415-424-7290.

3 Blks from Bart/Muni station.

**INCREDIBLE  
PROSTATE**  
plus great full body massage.  
By hot, nude, muscular, 5'10"  
(shower avail) • 415-244-9924.

**HAIRY MASSEUR**  
full body full release massage done in the nude by a very nice looking naturally hairy guy!  
510-912-8812. Outcalls only.

**HUGE FAT CUT MEAT**  
9x6 Cut, 6' 180# 45 full release  
In \$60 • Buck • 724-8117.

**SENSUAL NUDE MASSAGE**  
Latin boy Danny 305-6855. Sexy, slim, friendly, 5'7", 130#. In/Out.

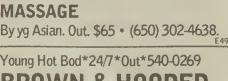
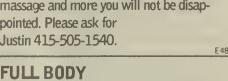
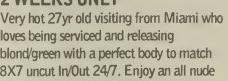
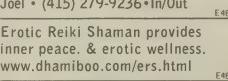
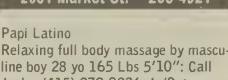
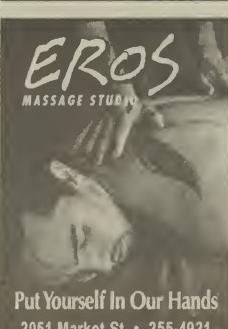
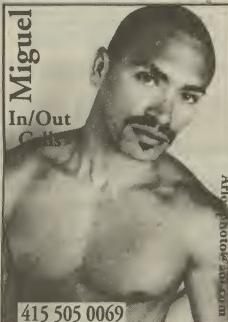
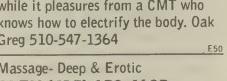
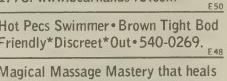
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Good Hands \$60 (408) 729-7156

San Jose-Full Body Swedish-CMT-\$40/Hr-\$55/1 1/2 Hr-Showers avail.  
8am-9pm 7 Days-Same Day Appt's.  
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Smooth Tired Relaxing Msg.  
With AZN Cute  
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Therapeutic massage w/table  
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240 lbs

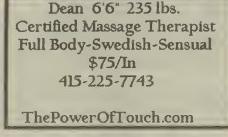
STRONG,

DEEP,

SENSUAL

CALL ROBERT

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Dean 6'6" 235 lbs.  
Certified Massage Therapist  
Full Body-Swedish-Sensual  
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6'2"

195#

KURT

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Gives good deep Swedish!

Masc, hairy, 195, 5'11", 45, moust.

M-F aft 5, w/e OK-Rtx-Table/Oil

In \$60/60, \$90/90 510-601-6995

E48

BODYWORK

BY ASIAN

Friendly, gldkgng CMT 5'6", 130,

warm hands, sensual touch, full body,

relax. massage. In/Out. 218-0128

E48

Relax Release enjoy a sensual full

body massage by 38 CMT 75 min

\$50 Great hands from Stan 641-8221

E48

FIRESIDE MASSAGE

Unique style therapeutic and erotic

massage in front of a fireplace. Our

calls available also. Johnny 505-3060

E48

FEEL THE DIFFERENCE

Strong, energetic and athletic. Fer-

nando CMT (510) 325-7725. In/Out.

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MASSAGE BY HOT ASIAN

28.5'8", 145, Silky XXX Smooth

\$80 In/100 Out, Call Hung 948-7244

E48

CUTE

MASSEUR 225-4081

5'9" 145Lbs. 30wst fit Slim/Smooth

Blond/Brn eyes. SF/Marin. In/Out.

Have table.

Touch Me All Over/X-Rated Rub by

Hot Nudist/Ken/346-4966/\$60

E48

SANTA ROSA

HIDEAWAY

Superb very personal massage plus

fantasies explored by mature masseur

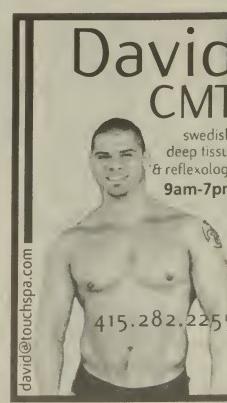
in remote country setting. Also group

massages and Overnight and Daytime

Spa and Massage Getaway Packages.

Roger 707-525-1771 www.sr-hideaway.com

E48



swedish,  
deep tissue  
& reflexology

9am-7pm

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SF, All Bay Area.

50 minutes N. of S.F.

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All ages/ races/

body types.

Short notice OK

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pressure

Cranio Sacral

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415-298-0004



## PERSONALS

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6'3"  
250#  
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Partner available

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Got a kinky side? Like it intense or laidback?  
Take it slow with Seth. 190', 6'3", Topman  
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23/5'7"/120 in/out 994-3763  
CUTE MEXICAN BTM

Anything goes Asian 5'7" 135lbs  
Tom 415-412-7261

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Prolonged, forced scenes from The Expert. BD/SM. You set the limits.  
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35yr 5'9", 170 100% vers  
8 1/2 thick uncut very discreet  
open minded, tattooed,  
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**HOT 20YO \*DIRTY MIND**  
Hard, tasty 8in, very masculine  
Always fun, always horny  
All scenes encouraged 756+3029

Frat boy Hulk  
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass  
5'9", 155#, 30"W, 8" 640-4045

Latin Macho daddy/6'180/38yo/well  
defined body strong legs, big smooth  
bubble butt/big balls/very well hung.  
Versatile. Call Joe 415-225-4963

**LATIN 8"UNCUT 135# 5'7"**  
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**BI BLACK STUD TOP**  
Handsome Hung Discreet Friendly  
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Cute, smooth, 21, 5'5", 125, br;br/  
Sensual, fun. 415-540-1024. Out.

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Escorts with very ticklish feet  
Call me after 4 any day.  
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Hot, exotic twink, nice kid, very outgoing, fun to be with, fresh 5'11"  
135 blk/brn, Black, Smooth twink type bod, 8 cut vers top, into most scenes, have a fetish or fantasy? Call me, Chad 415-205-6423.

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LOVE GIRLS BUT NEED CASH.  
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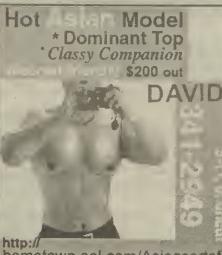
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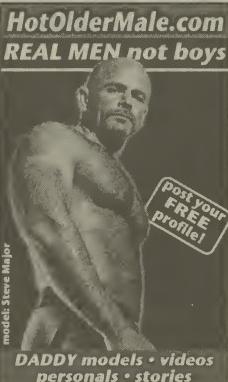


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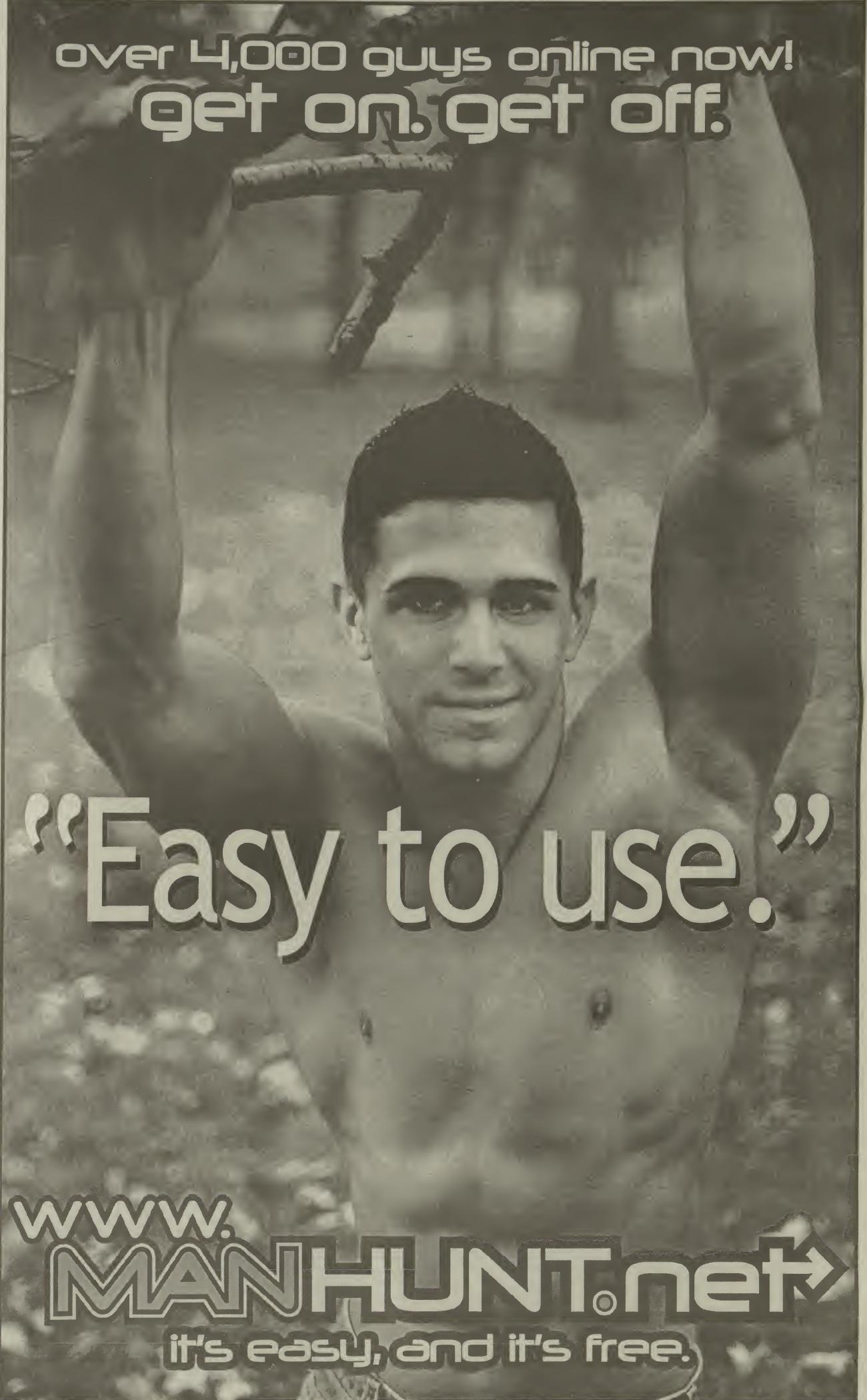
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